

The Defender

February 19, 2003

St. Michael's College Student Newspaper

Volume XXX, Issue 3

Demolition, construction of dormitories confirmed

Two residences planned; theme, Lime Kiln houses to be vacated

By Shannon O'Brien
Staff Writer

The board of trustees this month approved the construction of two new dormitories this month, which will cost a total of \$13.5 million. The dorms are intended to replace the theme houses and Senior, Salmon and St. Joseph's halls.

The board of trustees' decision comes on the heels of the construction of the \$7.9 million Cashman Hall and the \$6.2 million Hoehl Welcome Center, which is scheduled for completion in June.

Construction on the new dorms is set to begin in July or August, Vice President of Finance Neal Robinson said. The dorms are expected to be completed by the fall of 2004, Housing Coordinator Sheryl



Photo by Sarah MacConnell
Salmon Hall is one of three houses – along with St. Joseph's and Senior halls – to be abandoned within a couple of years in favor of the new Cashman Hall-style dorms. The three buildings, which sit across Vermont 15 from Founders Hall, might become an office complex.

Fleury said.

Fleury said the construction of the two residence halls has been planned for a while.

"With our enrollment having increased the last many years, we have had to build to accommodate these needs," Fleury said. "The building of these two will hopefully accomplish that."

The new dorms will be identical to Cashman Hall. They will have eight-person suites and are expected to hold 124 residents each, Fleury said.

When the dorms are finished, students will no longer have the option of living in theme

See DORMS, Page 2

S.A. faces shakeup

Positions to be added, eliminated

By Katie Mazurek
Staff Writer

discussion about splitting that position as well.

New positions would include a secretary of student life, who would deal with departments like Information Technology, Sodexo-Marriot Food Services and the School of International Studies.

"We want the S.A. to be more efficient," Monahan said.

The S.A.'s goal is student involvement, Hajdun said. He said he does not think this is being achieved with the current setup of dorm and area representatives.

"We don't have the interest across all of campus," Hajdun said. "We need to spread the interest out (by) hopefully getting more students involved."

The college has 51 dorm representatives, as each dorm has a president, vice president and four senators. Hajdun's proposal calls for the elimination of two dorm senator positions, to be replaced by additional executive class officers. The debate among S.A. members is whether these positions will be appointed or

The makeup of the Student Association might be adjusted beginning next year. Some positions would be eliminated and others created for both dorms and the S.A.'s Executive Board.

Matt Hajdun, S.A. secretary of student policy, recently proposed the changes.

Hajdun said the proposed E-Board changes would help to spread out duties. The president's position would remain intact but with fewer responsibilities. The vice president would take on more to assist the president.

The position of secretary of international student affairs would be abolished because it's unnecessary that one person do all that work, S.A. President Matt Monahan said. The position's former tasks would be delegated among other positions.

The position of secretary of programming would be split between two people. The job requires a lot of time and work, and two people would make the job much easier, Monahan said.

A secretary of finance would still exist, though there has been

See S.A., Page 3

WEEKLY WEATHER

Courtesy of weather.com

Wed....34/25 Cloudy
Thu 36/21 Cloudy
Fri 34/31 Cloudy
Sat.....34/8 Mix
Sun 18/-1 Snow

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Security Log 2
Opinion 4
Features 5
Health & Fitness 7
Science & Tech 8
A&E 9
Religion.....11
Columns 13
Calendar 14
Sports 16

AIDS awareness organization emerges at SMC

Student campaign looks to fight AIDS locally, globally

By Stefan Botchev
Staff Writer

A number of students in political science professor Patricia Siplon's AIDS Pandemic class established the St. Michael's chapter of Student Global AIDS Campaign after learning about the global crisis.

The SGAC is a student-run organization committed to fighting AIDS on a local, national and global level. Students at Harvard University founded the original chapter in February 2001. The organization has 188 members in 43 states.

The St. Michael's chapter has about 30 members.

"They are a wonderful group

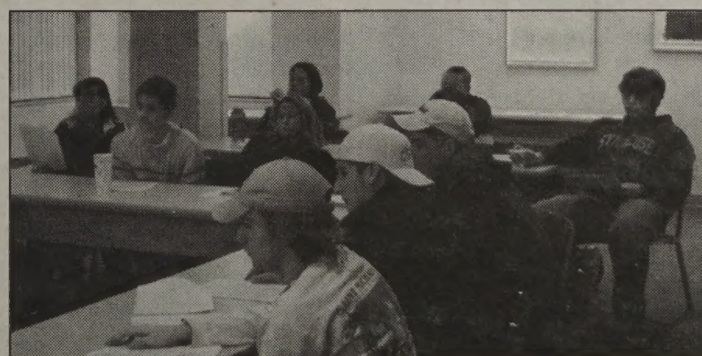


Photo by Jon-Michael McColgan
Students at the Feb. 12 SGAC meeting are briefed by Professor Patricia Siplon (not pictured). Nearly 30 students have joined the club.

of students, and I hope together we will be able to create a whole series of opportunities for students to work on this global problem on a yearly basis," said Siplon, an AIDS activist.

Three St. Michael's members recently went through classes trying to recruit more. Group member Mike McCarthy said Siplon wanted to get students

involved by making them realize how widespread AIDS has become.

"She will throw these statistics at you and then put a really human face to it," McCarthy said.

The students involved with the organization said Siplon's class was eye-opening and that AIDS – along with tuberculosis

and malaria – was identified by the United Nations as one of the most threatening diseases on Earth. McCarthy said 8,000 people die every day due to complications from AIDS, more than twice the number of people who died in the World Trade Center attack on Sept. 11, 2001.

Jeff Prescott, another founder of the St. Michael's chapter, was unhappy that the global AIDS problem wasn't taken more seriously.

"It makes me kind of sick that people can do things about it but don't do it," Prescott said.

Prescott and company were on hand Feb. 5 when the Student Association's members voted to accept the group as a student organization despite not allotting it a budget.

However, the group will receive a budget of \$500 next

See AIDS, Page 2

News

St. Michael's College Security Log

Excerpts from the Feb. 7-13 security reports. Courtesy of the St. Michael's College Office of Security.

Friday, Feb. 7

2:39 a.m. Suspicious persons at Tarrant Center
6:28 a.m. Escort to Joyce Hall
11:30 a.m. Theft at Joyce Hall
8:00 p.m. Complaint at Trono House
11:08 p.m. Suspicious persons along Vermont 15

Saturday, Feb. 8

12:22 a.m. Noise complaint at 300s Townhouses
12:45 a.m. Suspicious persons at 200s Townhouses
1:05 a.m. Suspicious persons at Ethan Allen Apts.
1:20 a.m. Drunkenness at Alumni Hall
1:46 a.m. Noise complaint at Winchester Place
1:53 a.m. Noise complaint at Ethan Allen Apartments
2:03 a.m. Suspicious persons at Founders Hall
2:12 a.m. Noise complaint at Ethan Allen Apartments
2:29 a.m. Disorderly conduct at Founders Hall
3:39 a.m. Assistance at Founders Hall

8:32 a.m. Parking complaint at Hegeman Drive
11:35 a.m. Vandalism at Ryan Hall
12:02 p.m. Suspicious persons at Tarrant Center

Sunday, Feb. 9

1:47 a.m. Alcohol violation at Alumni Hall
1:59 a.m. Escort to College Parkway
2:47 a.m. Escort to Hodson Hall
3:04 a.m. Fire alarm at Joyce Hall
5:10 a.m. Vandalism at Joyce Hall
7:24 a.m. Noise complaint at Founders Hall
10:26 a.m. Vandalism at 300s Townhouses
3:20 p.m. Vandalism at Hodson Hall
8:56 p.m. Motor vehicle accident at Hodson Hall
11:48 p.m. Vehicle stop at 200s Townhouses

Monday, Feb. 10

10:55 a.m. Harassing phone call at Cheray Hall

3:49 p.m. Suspicious persons at Jeanmarie Hall
5:15 p.m. Vandalism at Hamel Hall
11:11 p.m. Parking enforcement at Nicolle Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 11

12:26 a.m. Suspicious persons at Alumni Hall
2:36 a.m. Vandalism at 300s Townhouses
4:42 a.m. Vandalism at Alliot Student Center
5:16 a.m. Parking enforcement at 200s Townhouses
7:45 p.m. Odor violation at Hodson Hall
11:09 p.m. Odor violation at Joyce Hall

Wednesday, Feb. 12

No notable activity

Thursday, Feb. 13

3:34 a.m. Escort to Hamel Hall
10:48 p.m. Complaint at Tarrant Recreation Center

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Fun Fact

Sophomore women's ice hockey player Meg Lyons has had a hand in nearly half of her team's 60 goals the past two seasons with 17 goals and 11 assists.

AIDS: Plans include drawing speakers and attending national conference in D.C.

How to get involved

For information about the Student Global AIDS Campaign and its meetings, contact:

■ Professor Patricia Siplon, Ext. 2766

■ Rob. Mealey, Ext. 6378

Meetings:

- Vermont Room, Alliot Student Center
- Monday at 7 p.m. or Tuesday at 6 p.m., depending on the week

Continued from Page 1

semester, which the members plan to use to bring speakers to campus and fund a trip to the annual national SGAC conference at American University in Washington, D.C.

"Activists are never well-funded, but I don't think we need a lot of money to organize these kind of things," McCarthy said.

The college's newest organization has support from some St. Michael's staff and faculty, including Siplon and Cliff Lubitz, the North Campus resident director. Both have been trying to have AIDS classes added to the curriculum.

To give students a better per-

spective on the global AIDS problem, Siplon and Lubitz are taking 10 students on a study tour to Africa this summer. The trip will include work in an east African orphanage and will earn students three academic credits.

Professor Robert Lair said he hopes the group accomplishes great things.

"I think they're breaking very important new ground," Lair said. "I can't think of a more important addition to a St. Michael's education than direct involvement in the saving of lives."

DORMS: Founders, quad dorms might eventually face renovations, Fleury said

Continued from Page 1

houses along College Parkway, which will eventually be torn down, said David Cutler, director of physical plant.

"Students may feel more independent living in the theme houses, but they are substandard to the kind of housing we are trying to create at St. Michael's," Cutler said. "(Theme houses) are safe but not desirable."

Fifty-seven students live in the theme houses, Fleury said. A total of 49 students live in Senior, St. Joseph's and Salmon halls, the three buildings located across Vermont 15 on Lime Kiln Road.

The decision to no longer place students in those three houses is a safety issue, Cutler said.

"In the past, there have been students who have been hit while crossing Route 15," Cutler said.

The buildings across Vermont 15 might eventually be used as an office complex for fac-

ulty members or other administrators, Cutler said.

Other residence halls might eventually face renovations. Founders Hall might become an office building, though Fleury said that would depend on the decision of the board of trustees. A renovation proposal cannot be made until after the new dorms are finished, so it's unclear whether a renovation will occur.

There has been discussion regarding renovating buildings in the quad - Joyce, Alumni, Ryan and Lyons halls - and adding more living areas, such as lounges, though there's only a tentative plan for renovation.

Students have mixed feelings about the planned construction of the new residence halls.

Senior Maelyn Urban, the resident assistant at Senior Hall, said she is unsure of the best course of action. Although it is difficult crossing Vermont 15, Urban said she enjoyed living in Senior Hall because it's quiet and

more removed from campus.

"The buildings are really old and small, so you can see the positive side of not using them," Urban said. "but because they are small, you are better able to build a tight-knit community, which might be difficult to do in other areas."

Sophomore Emily Fullam said she is also ambivalent about the new dorms.

"It's great that they are going to build two new buildings similar to Cashman because it will bring students on campus from across the street," Fullam said, "but I think that the theme houses along the road give students more of a variety of living experiences, whereas the new buildings will offering only one option for students."

This Week in History

Feb. 19, 1473: Nicolaus Copernicus, the father of modern astronomy, is born in Torun, Poland. He hypothesized that the sun, not the Earth, was the center of our universe.

Feb. 20, 1902: Ansel Adams, best known for his beautiful black and white photographs of Yosemite and the Western United States, is born in San Francisco.

Feb. 21, 1965: Malcolm X, an African-American nationalist and religious leader, is assassinated in New York City by Black Muslims while speaking to his Organization of Afro-American Unity.

Feb. 22, 1980: The U.S. Olympic hockey team, composed mostly of college-aged players, pulls off one of the greatest upsets in history with a 4-3 victory over the Soviet Union, the defending Olympic champs, at the XIII Winter Games in Lake Placid, N.Y. Two days later, the U.S. grabs the gold medal with a 4-2 win over Finland.

Feb. 23, 1940: Twenty-eight-year-old Woody Guthrie writes "This Land is Your Land," the most famous of his nearly 1,000 songs. The song becomes an anthem during the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

Feb. 24, 1786: Wilhelm Grimm, who penned such classics as "Rumpelstiltskin," "Snow-White," "The Sleeping Beauty" and "Tom Thumb" with brother Jakob, is born in Hanau, Germany.

Feb. 25, 1870: Hiram Rhodes Revels is sworn in to the U.S. Senate. A Republican from Natchez, Miss., Revels becomes the first African-American to sit in Congress.

- Courtesy of
www.historychannel.com

News

S.A. proposed Constitution change

This Constitution change concerns S.A. Secretary of Student Policy Matt Hajdun's proposed student Senate changes, where as some hall and area representative positions would be eliminated while some class positions would be added. A vote, set for March 4, cannot take place until the Constitution change is viewed in the media by the SMC student body.

Contact Hajdun at ext. 6664 with questions or comments.

Section 1. – Constitution of the St. Michael's College Student Association

ARTICLE III – THE SENATE CABINET

Currently reads:

Section 2. Composition

- a) The student Senate shall be composed of on-campus and off-campus representation elected by a scale of 25:1. Adjustments may be made, as appropriate, to maintain this ratio;
- b) The following shall be entitled to a voice and a vote:
 1. Floor representatives (hall senators)
 2. Townhouse area representatives
 3. Peripheral house representatives
 4. Off-campus representatives

Proposed to be changed to:

Section 2. Composition

- a) The student Senate shall be composed of on-campus and off-campus housing representatives (see Section 2 Article III), class officers and club and organization representatives;
- b) The following shall be entitled to a vote:
 1. Hall/area senators (including presidents and vice presidents)
 2. Off-campus representatives
 3. The four class senators and executive officers of the class
- c) All other members of the Student Association in attendance will not have the power to vote, unless specified for a special vote. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend the S.A. meetings.

S.A.: March vote to decide changes

Continued from Page 1

elected.

Andrew Falzone, Alumni Hall third-floor senator, said he thinks appointing representatives would be better because it is hard to find people to fill positions.

"If the class has a problem with someone appointed, the person can be removed," Falzone said.

The idea to appoint representatives is one of many changes Hajdun has proposed.

"Matt has done a really good job trying to do this," said Greg Monahan, secretary of operations. Monahan explained that the object of reorganizing is to get more representatives from each class.

"What happens is that you end up having two people from the same dorm that want to run and none from another dorm, so you end up leaving out someone who really wants to be involved," Greg Monahan said.

The intended effect of centering the arrangement on the class and not the dorms and areas would allow those who want to be involved to become involved.

Falzone said he is in favor of the changes. Adding positions would take some burden off the class presidents and vice presidents and allow for better operation of each class, he said.

"It would bring more efficiency to the S.A.," Falzone said. "It's really not decreasing the numbers, like a lot of people

Reorganization: Executive Board

Positions that will maintain current status with some minor changes:

- President
- Vice president
- Secretary of communications
- Secretary of academics

Positions that will be split between two people:

- Co-secretaries of finance
- Co-secretaries of student events
 - Similar to current secretary of programming

New/modified positions:

- Secretary of student life
- Secretary of student policy
- Secretary of publications
 - Will design Web site, create calendar and handle promotions
- Secretary of international student events
 - Similar job as former E-Board position but on a smaller scale
- Club and organization sub-committee chairpeople
 - Will organize club and organization meetings
- Club sports sub-committee chairpeople
- Secretary of hall and area programming
- Elections committee chairpeople
 - Will coordinate and run spring and fall elections

think. It's more of a shifting of the numbers."

Spencer Powlison, the first-floor senator for Cashman Hall, expressed some concern with the prospect of change. However, he said he agrees that the restructuring is a worthwhile idea, and he believes that it can create more equal representation.

"My one concern is that a lot of elected (officials) will be replaced by appointed (officials)," Powlison said.

Sophomore Class President David Volpe was initially unsure how he felt about the changes.

"I was originally against it, but now I am more open to the discussion," Volpe said. "I see that the changes would be for the better."

Although the process for choosing new members has yet to be decided, Volpe suggested allowing people to be put up for election, and if positions are not filled that way, people should be

Reorganization: Senate and classes

Dorms/areas

- President
- Vice president
- Two senators

Off-campus

- One senator

Class executives

- President
- Vice president
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Four senators

appointed.

"I feel that sometimes having to run for a position can discourage people from getting involved," Volpe said.

The changes will be voted on at the March 4 S.A. meeting.

What do you think??

The Defender staff wants to know what you think. Will a Student Association reorganization get more students involved with the campus' governmental process? Will you become more involved? Do you agree with how the S.A. wants to reorganize? Do you have suggestions to make it run more efficiently? Are there any positions you'd like to see the S.A. create?

Let us know. Contact the Defender via e-mail at defender@smcvt.edu and we'll print your responses.

To get involved with the S.A., contact your hall or class representatives.

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Opinion

Editorial

A matter of life and death

In his January State of the Union address, President Bush vowed to donate \$15 billion in federal money to organizations fighting AIDS in 15 countries throughout Africa and the Caribbean. Bush made AIDS a priority in his administration with his contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in 2001. According to Health GAP (Global Access Project), however, the fund faces insolvency. Is fighting AIDS really a priority for the government or is Bush just paying lip service to the world at a time when global opinion of him is at an all-time low?

Forty million people live with HIV worldwide; 96 percent of them live in developing countries, with 71 percent in sub-Saharan Africa alone, according to Health GAP statistics.

Under the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, which has yet to pass Congress, \$10 billion in new money would be distributed over five years beginning next year. Health GAP estimates at least \$10.5 billion a year is needed immediately for prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Bush's plan falls drastically short of this assessment.

Bush's plan adheres to the Mexico City policy, restored during his first weeks in office. The Mexico City policy, established by President Reagan in 1984, forbade nongovernmental organizations that performed abortions from receiving government money. Bush then promptly cut funding to health organizations abroad that performed abortions as a form of family planning. In doing so, however, he also withdrew money for treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Bush has changed his mind again by pledging to spend billions of U.S. dollars to fight AIDS. However, the federal money will be meticulously allotted to ensure that no organizations performing abortions receive funding. Organizations are forced to choose between offering a variety of services or benefiting from U.S. aid. Bush is reluctant to put taxpayer money toward performing abortions worldwide, but with so many restrictions imposed, it seems as though his proposed amount will have an extremely difficult time reaching the countries that need it most.

This shouldn't be a domestic controversy bogged down by rhetoric and political loyalty. This is a global crisis. The Bush administration needs to overlook the fine details within individual health organizations and give what it has pledged before another 40 million people become infected.

Skye Donovan,
Executive Editor

Correction:

The college fund-raising campaign is not related to a pending tuition increase. A story on Page One of last week's Defender incorrectly linked the two.

Contact The Defender
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The Defender Mission Statement

As the editorial staff of The Defender, the student-run newspaper of St. Michael's College, we strive to accurately, professionally and ethically report the news affecting the lives of students in the community.

The decisions we make with regard to content and style are our own, and are influenced only by our goal of both informing and entertaining our readers.

We believe in the freedom of expression. We encourage our readers to express their views at any time.

The Defender publishes letters to the editor in response to articles that we have printed in the paper and issues on campus. The Defender does not publish anonymous letters. Letters will be edited only for grammar, spelling and good taste.

Photo of the week



Photo by Sarah MacConnell

95 Triple X's Bachelorette, St. Michael's senior Meg Farley, starred in her own reality radio show last week with her final date choice, Lance. The couple enjoyed Valentine's Day at the Dog Team tavern in Middlebury. See the story on Page 7.

Colleges may be targets for terror

Law enforcement urges students to be prepared in the event of possible biochemical attacks on campuses

By Hana R. Alberts
Harvard Crimson
(Harvard U.)

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — It's hard to find a roll of duct tape in Harvard Square these days. The code orange level of terrorist alert announced by the U.S. government on Friday, Feb. 7 has prompted a nationwide shopping spree for supplies that might be useful in case of a biological or chemical attack.

The FBI announced Tuesday, Feb. 11 that colleges and universities could be "soft" targets for attacks because they are poorly defended, host large events and contain materials for nuclear weapons, according to an article posted on The Chronicle of Higher Education's Web site on Tuesday.

But Harvard University Police Department spokesman Steven G. Catalano noted that universities were far from alone on the list of such targets.

"HUPD was concerned that the article gave this impression that colleges and universities were at immediate risk,"

Catalano said. "In fact, they were listed as one of many soft targets that included banks, churches and shopping malls."

Nonetheless, residents continue to stock up on protective supplies the Government's Department of Homeland Security says can be used in the case of a biological terror attack.

Dickson Brothers — Harvard Square's sole hardware store — has sold out of most supplies.

Store Manager Ned P. VerPlanck said although supplies like duct tape and plastic sheeting have depleted because of the heightened alert, more supplies will be in stock soon.

"It's because of the newspaper articles and the news on TV," VerPlanck said.

"(The rush) started on Tuesday, with plastic here and a roll of tape there, we sold out."

Catalano said Harvard is prepared to respond to an attack on the University, but he said there are no signs that such an attack is imminent.

"Harvard University has very good relations with local, state and federal law enforcement

agencies," Catalano said. "We are in constant contact in order to assess any risk to Harvard. To date, no credible threats have been made against the University."

House superintendents said they have been apprised of the heightened warning.

"One thing students can do is educate themselves about the issues of preparedness and planning," Catalano said.

In addition buying duct tape and plastic sheeting, the Department of Homeland Security recommends assembling a disaster kit that contains a battery-powered radio, a first-aid kit, batteries, nonperishable food and water.

Other colleges have increased their security in response to the FBI warning.

Princeton University issued a statement on their Web site, and Syracuse University plans to carefully patrol a football game against Notre Dame tomorrow that will attract more than 30,000 fans.

U-Wire



Features

CAMPUS SPEAKS

What are your plans for spring break?



"I have to go run around in shorts for a week at Weston Priory because the school didn't fund our lacrosse trip. We're staying at a Franciscan monastery."

Nick Calnen, '05



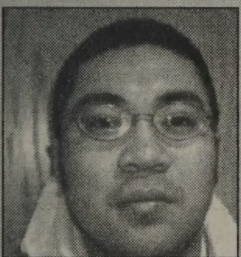
"Writing my thesis."

Danny Perry, '03



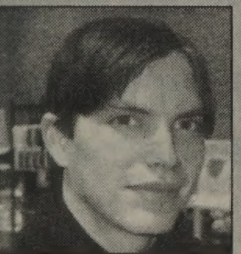
"Ride cowboys out West."

Katie Blake, '05



"I'm going home and I'm going to see my stockbroker and that's all I'm going to say."

Paolo Rosales, '05



"I'm going to Boston with my brother."

Mark Cash, '03



"You know how spring break you're supposed to go somewhere sunny and beachy? Well, we're going skiing, and the only way we're going to get any color is by getting windburn."

Colleen Raimondi, '04



Photo by Sarah MacConnell

Meagan Farley, the intern at 95 Triple X, chats with her date, Lance. They enjoyed Valentine's Day dinner at The Dog Team Tavern in Middlebury as part of the radio station's Mike and Chantal's Bachelorette Contest.

Keep bringing on the single men

St. Michael's senior moonlights as 95 Triple X's 'Bachelorette'

By Meagan Farley
Staff Writer

You only live once, right? Closing yourself off from new, possibly bizarre experiences would be stupid.

This is what I was thinking when Ben Hamilton, the program director at 95 Triple X, tried to coerce me into what the radio station was referring to as its "new idea."

We've all seen the reality shows and we've all quietly kept tabs on our new best friends, Aaron, Trista and Trishelle. Who did they love, who did they hate and who were they sleeping with? Reality TV is a guilty pleasure for so many people—especially me. So why not take part in my own little piece of reality radio? Except this time, I was the one under the microscope.

Radio people are unique, and 95 Triple X is overflowing with such characters. I was due at the studio every day by 6:40 a.m. The studio time was a blast. Mike, Chantal and Jamie (Extreme Jamie) are absolutely hilarious and we have fun from the moment I walk in there.

So, when it comes down to it, I was a lucky girl. The people I went out with were good look-

ing, nice and fun. I had never done the blind date thing before and had no idea what to expect. My first date was the most nerve-racking. We chose a 22-year-old loan officer named Lance. He sounded cute on the phone and I hoped the same was true for him in person. We met at the Sirloin Saloon at 7:30 p.m. and I almost peed my pants before I walked in the door.

I relaxed soon after the introduction. He was cute, tall and very talkative. I think he may have had a list of questions to ask in case things got awkward, but that's all right. Whatever his plan was, it worked. After date one, I was all about this whole blind date thing. Keep bringing me those bachelors. This was fun!

I went out on four more dates after Lance and found it legitimately difficult to choose one final date for Valentine's Day. I had to keep reminding myself that it was all in good fun, but I really found myself liking some of the people that I had met.

On the morning of Valentine's Day, I had not made a decision. The past two weeks had been so much fun, I had learned some really cool radio techniques and I had some good free meals! At around 8 a.m., Mike and Chantal forced me to make a

decision, but not before Mike excused himself from the studio for a moment. Let me just remind you that we were live on the radio, and I had no idea what was going on. Mike returned with a dozen roses and a bottle of my favorite wine, Cavit Pinot Grigio. "Oh, my God, you're kidding me!" I yelled. Luckily, Chantal had predicted my reaction and was ready with the censor button.

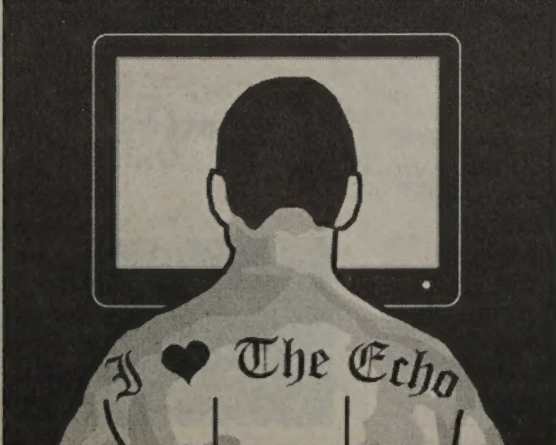
The gifts were from Lance, who had driven from Barre at 5:30 in the morning to drop them off. How could I say no to that? HE GOT ME WINE.

We went to The Dog Team Tavern on Valentine's Day and had a great dinner. As for the juicy details, well, not every St. Michael's student needs to know everything.

So, if life ever throws you some peculiar opportunities, take them. I did and I just finished the most rewarding and fun two weeks of my entire life.

I enjoyed my 15 minutes of fame, and oddly enough, someone did recognize me in a public bathroom, I guess from the pictures on the Web site. Though my father is still convinced I was part of some porn project since the station name is 95 Triple X.

<http://journalism.smcvt.edu/echo>



**friends
don't let friends
drive drunk**



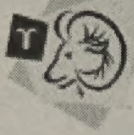
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Transportation

Features

HOROSCOPES


PISCES: (Feb. 19-March 20)

A surprise will come your way this weekend, but only if you keep your eyes on the prize. Don't let small setbacks discourage you.


ARIES: (March 21-April 19)

It may be time to face an old fear. It's better to deal with it now than when you have no other option.


TAURUS: (April 20-May 20)

Sometimes people can say or do dumb things, but they are well-intentioned. Just let it slide this week.


GEMINI: (May 21-June 20)

Partying may temporarily relieve some of your stress, but the effects will linger for a long time. Watch who you tell secrets to.


CANCER: (June 21-July 22)

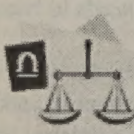
Put some effort into looking your best. You never know who has an eye on you.


LEO: (July 23-Aug. 22)

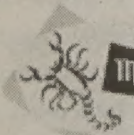
Keep your distance from ill-tempered people this week, or else your natural fight instinct will come out.


VIRGO: (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Just remember that you're never alone. You can always count on your best friends in a time of need.


LIBRA: (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

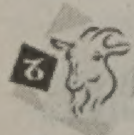
Your mood will improve once the February gray melts away. Keep your head up.


SCORPIO: (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

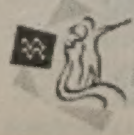
Your work will be noticed this week, but not in the way you were expecting. Your sense of satisfaction is all the reward you need.


SAGITTARIUS: (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

The fates are punishing you, but it's never too late to turn your situation around. Do some good for a change.


CAPRICORN: (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Checking out that hottie when you thought no one was looking was a bad idea. Subtle is definitely not your middle name.


AQUARIUS: (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Things may not go your way this week, but take it all in stride. You have a well-deserved break in the near future.

St. Michael's recognizes alumni achievements

By Joanna Lord
Staff Writer

St. Michael's prides itself on having well-rounded students, some excelling in athletics, some in community service and still others in academics. All of these characteristics are recognized when outstanding contributions are made by particular students, with the most recent addition being the St. Michael's Academic Hall of Fame.

"This is a new idea to St. Michael's, but quite a few other colleges have it," said Janet Sheeran, provost and vice president of academic affairs. "I think it was bound to develop here as well."

Many faculty and staff members see this as a long-awaited addition to St. Michael's.

"We honor athletes for their efforts, and lots of other people for the things they do. This is just a way of honoring the scholars that graduate from St. Michael's," said Patrick Gallivan, director of alumni and parent relations.

Sheeran shares the enthusiasm for the program.

"It's ironic that in a college like this, with a strong focus on learning, that we were missing a way to recognize those that excel in the core of our institution," Sheeran said.

The nominated alumni don't have to have a certain undergraduate GPA or any other specific requirements, although there is a standard expected of those who are chosen.

"We focus on the academic accomplishments of those after they leave St. Michael's," Sheeran said. "We look at academic contributions, such as receiving your doctorate, or even becoming a great high school teacher."

Other considerations include the nominee's efforts in cultural issues and public service.

Members of the St. Michael's Academic Hall of Fame

Dr. James H. Fallon, '69, inducted May 2002
Rev. T. Donald Sullivan, SSE '34, inducted May 2002
Ambassador Robert E. White '52, inducted June 2002
Dr. Paul A. Lachance, '55, inducted September 2002
Dr. Richard M. Narkewicz, '56, inducted September 2002
Loung B. Ung '93, inducted September 2002
Bernard L. Boutin '45, inducted October 2002
Dr. Richard L. Gamelli, '70, inducted October 2002

"They might not have high credentials, but through activism and experience they are making statements. That is what we honor," Sheeran said.

Nominees are chosen by other faculty and alumni and are

'It's ironic that in a college like this, with a strong focus on learning, that we were missing a way to recognize those that excel in the core of our institution.'

Janet Sheeran, provost

then considered by a committee consisting of Sheeran, the dean of the college, Gallivan and various representatives from the Alumni Board of Directors.

"We take a lot of things into consideration," Gallivan said. "We look for those that exemplify scholarship discovery, great teaching skills and achievements in their professional and private life."

Dr. James H. Fallon, '69, is one of a few already inducted for this year and admits he was surprised when he was told of his nomination.

"At first I thought it was a case of mistaken identity; they can't possibly mean me," Fallon

said. "There is still that sense of, 'Pinch me, and I'll wake up.'"

Fallon was nominated largely due to his scientific research with stem cells and their ability to grow when damaged. He is a professor of anatomy and neurobiology at the University of California, Irvine, College of Medicine.

"I realize that the faculty did appreciate and give attention to the whole social and ethical impact of stem cell research, and I owe a great thanks to my SMC brothers and sisters for my nomination," Fallon said.

With so much attention given to athletes and student volunteers at St. Michael's, Fallon realizes the uniqueness of the Academic Hall of Fame.

"I had not really done my best at St. Michael's, and I was not proud of this," Fallon said. "I enjoyed some of the diversions like sports and partying, but I remember all the encouragement I received."

Fallon does not take the honor lightly; he said he is lucky to "receive such a wonderful honor from a truly wonderful place."

Although it may have taken a while to form an Academic Hall of Fame, the addition is welcomed.

"I think this shows the positive impact our alumni have on the world. It honors their hard work, but it also honors St. Michael's," Gallivan said.

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Health & Fitness

A Two-Track Mind

Students find running gives more energy than it takes

By Jenn Donahue
Staff Writer

While it is well known that many people run to become fit and stay healthy, some people believe there are benefits to running that extend beyond the body and into the mind.

Many people say they experience a "runner's high" that stays with them throughout the day.

"I think the body and mind can come together during exercise and feel surges of pride and achievement," DeLuke said. "Endorphines are released, your adrenaline gets going and you feel like you are unstoppable."

DeLuke said this mindset is also about a sense of accomplishment. "When you feel good about yourself physically, it is natural to feel good about yourself mentally and emotionally."

Senior Erin Devine, who said she runs three times a week, said something "clicks sometimes, and you just want to keep going to maintain the feeling," she said.

Devine said staying motivated to run is sometimes hard, but once she starts, "I get so into the feeling that I don't think about stopping. At the end it was total-

ly worth the effort."

"Running rejuvenates me for the day. Yes, it takes a lot of energy but in the end it gives me more energy, I am more motivated to do things," Devine said.

Junior Barrett Hyde runs to improve something other than his mind: his lacrosse game.

"I hate running, but it motivates me to do better on the field. I have to have endurance to play, and running five miles a day improves my endurance and that comes across on the field," Hyde said.

DeLuke said she believes there is credence to the theory of the

'I get so into the feeling that I don't think about stopping.'

Erin Devine, senior

"runner's high," supposedly an endorphin-enhanced feeling that some people report experiencing after long periods of running. She said this feeling is connected to

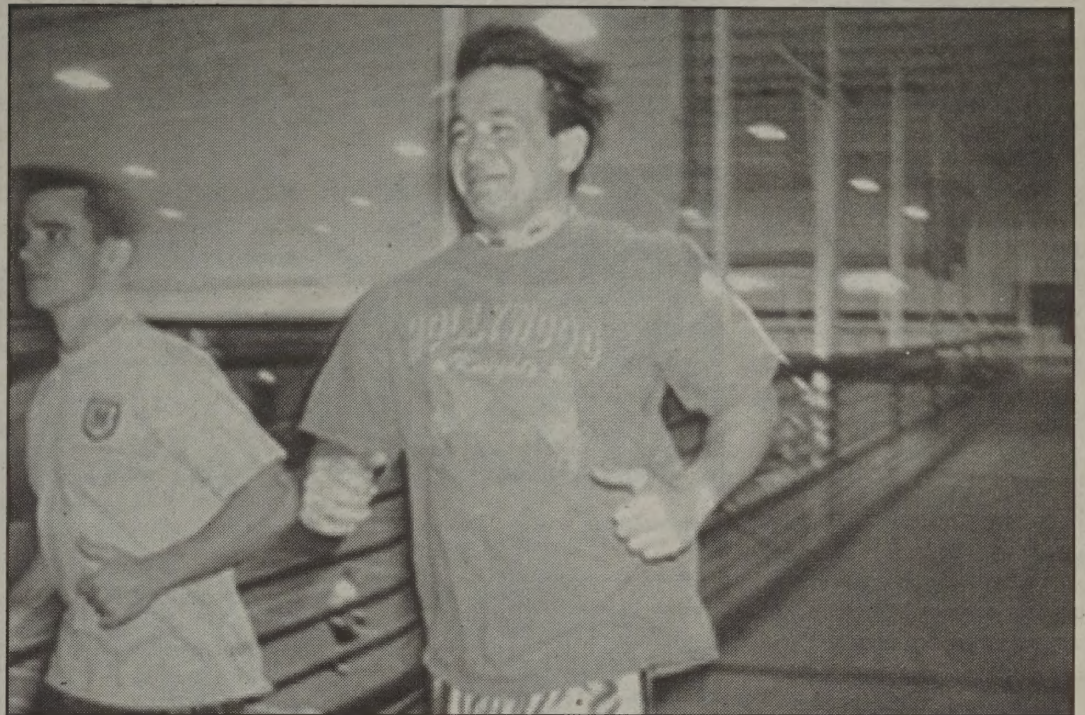


Photo By Sarah MacConnell

Seniors Mike McCarthy and Richard Earhardt de-stress by going for a run on the track in Tarrant.

the relationship between the body and the mind. Devine agreed.

"It is a state of mind that releases the energy you thought you would lose with the run," she said.

While Devine and DeLuke said they believe in this running-induced feeling, St. Michael's men's cross-country coach Joe

Connelly said he runs for a different reason.

"I run for the motion of running, not a chemical release in the brain," Connelly said.

Connelly has been running for nearly 25 years and has been a coach at St. Michael's for two.

DeLuke said that running has been a positive influence in her

life because it teaches discipline and gives her motivation.

"It does give me a feeling of pride and accomplishment when I finish a good, solid run."

The hot sauce revolution

A pepper a day might keep the doctor away

By Luke Whyte
Staff Writer

Everyone has a horror story or two to tell about eating extra hot spices, peppers or sauces.

"My boyfriend once tricked me into eating a chicken wing injected with incredibly powerful hot sauce," sophomore Caroline Mays said. "My mouth was on fire for hours afterwards. I was so furious that I turned around and slapped him."

Few people in our society, however, have considered using hot foods and spices to improve their health. In other countries around the world, foods like chili peppers are used to do everything from curing illness to alleviating back pains.

"There are claims that spicy food can do many things," said Susan Jacques at Health Services, "like improve digestion, speed up metabolism, alleviate diarrhea, lessen congestion, reduce high blood pressure, lessen pain and even prevent cancer."

Chili peppers especially have been proven to have health benefits. One jalapeño pepper has three times the vitamin C of an orange and is a great source of vitamin A, said Jeff Mitchell at Vermont Pepper Works. Chili pepper extract is also one of the main ingredients in arthritis

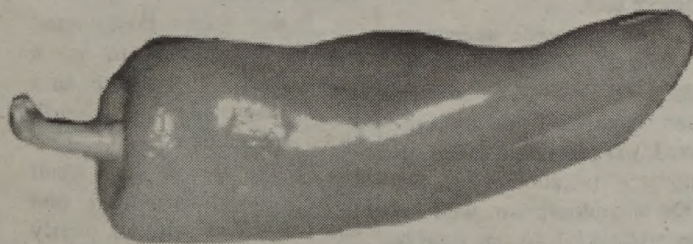
creams because it is known to increase circulation.

"Rub a mixture of chili powder and water on your feet next time you going skiing and your feet will stay warmer," Mitchell said, "because it increases your

was all better."

A common concern is that eating really spicy things could lead to internal damage.

"I'm always afraid I'll burn an ulcer in my stomach," Grab said.



circulation."

Eating chili peppers or any really spice foods might also clear out your sinuses.

"If I have a cold I'll make sure to eat lots of spicy food," junior Geoffrey Grab said. "Opens me right up."

Some people believe that spicy foods can actually help cure the common cold, the most prominent theory being that it helps "sweat it out."

"I have healed with one of my cayenne sauces before," Mitchell said. "A friend of mine had a cold so I gave him a bottle. He took it home and ate the whole thing. The next day he

Chili peppers and other spices are actually good for curing ulcers, Mitchell said. They are basic, not acidic as most people think, and counteract the acidity of the ulcer.

"When Bolivian tribesmen get ulcers, they are fed 18 chili peppers a day for four to 18 days until they are cured," Mitchell said.

Eating peppers and other spicy foods might be painful, but no permanent damage is ever caused. The only real damage that can be caused is damage to skin, eyes or the lining of the throat by direct contact with very hot peppers.

Pepper Prescriptions

Problems peppers have been known to help:

- Asthma
 - Headaches
 - Sinus infections
 - Hangovers
 - Respiratory problems
 - Weight loss
 - Vitamin C deficiency
- More information can be found at www.mexgrocer.com

"Spicy food is not good for people with nausea or vomiting," Jacques said.

"I once attempted to eat a whole chili pepper on a dare," sophomore John Robinson said. "I accidentally got some of the pepper on to my face and into my eyes. It burned so badly I had to call poison control. They told me to wash it out with milk."

There is little scientific research to prove the many alleged benefits of chili peppers and other spices. However, many have been passed down through folklore for generations and are still widely practiced today. Author Dave Dewitt has compiled such stories in his book, "The Chili Pepper Encyclopedia."

There are certain cultures in Paraguay that use the leaves and roots of chili peppers in the bath and bathe to relieve back pain, the encyclopedia says. Leaves of the pepper leaf tree are used in Trinidad to cure chest colds. There are reports of people in Colombia and India who use chili powder to draw out the venom of

snakebites.

Chili peppers are used in Jamaica to prevent malaria. Mayan women used to put the peppers in water and rub them on their skin to improve their complexion. The Incas believed peppers improved eyesight. In Peru, chili peppers are a cure for pimples, and in Venezuela the pulpous of the leaves is placed on boils.

Students at St. Michael's might not be interested in taking a bath in chili pepper stems the next time they throw out their backs, but for a stuffy nose, try a little hot spice to clear your head. Spice experts believe it's good for whatever ails you.

Science & Technology

The DVD Invasion

Are VHS tapes in jeopardy of being erased from stores?

By Stu Hedstrom
Staff Writer

"Comes with over 10 hours of bonus features, including deleted scenes and actors' and director's commentaries."

Advertisements like this one, for "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring," urge consumers to rush out and buy the latest movie releases on DVD. These ads also try to convince consumers to go with a DVD format over VHS tapes.

Digital video discs have become more common since being introduced to the general public in 1997. DVDs enable viewers to skip through movies, choose from multiple languages and some come equipped with hours of bonus features.

According to Sony, one of many DVD manufactures, DVDs offer sharper picture and better sound quality than VHS tapes. The sharper picture comes from the 500 lines of horizontal resolution, twice as much as those on a VHS tape. The better sound quality of DVDs is due to higher sampling rates, producing a fuller and more textured sound.

Some lesser name brands that produce DVD players, (unlike Sony and Panasonic) can be purchased today for less than \$100. This price is down from \$700 in 1997. Comparatively, VCRs ran about \$250 when DVD players entered the market.

Individual DVD titles can cost less than \$20 at major retailers like Best Buy and Circuit City, many of which have cut down their stock of VHS tapes dramatically. Best Buy still sells a small selection of VHS tapes, but Circuit City is discontinuing VHS tape sales from its chain. Some retailers have stopped selling VHS tapes due to lack of storage space, and because they are trying to sell more DVD players.

The International Recording Media Association estimates that DVD players can be found in 35 million American homes, compared to about 90 million households with a videocassette recorder.

DVDs are popular items at many major video rental chains. Blockbuster Entertainment, which started carrying DVDs in its stores in September 1999, made almost \$2 billion last year



Photo by Jon-Michael McColgan

A view of Blockbuster Video on Williston Road in South Burlington.

'The younger people seem to be going with DVDs, but a bunch of people of all ages are hanging onto VHS.'

Chris Swarpzbaugh,
Blockbuster sales assistant

in revenues from DVD sales and rentals, according to figures from the magazine "Business 2.0." This represents 40 percent of Blockbuster's total rental sales for 2002.

Locally, Blockbuster's stock is split between DVDs and VHS tapes. Chris Swarpzbaugh of the Williston Road Blockbuster in South Burlington estimates that neither format is more popular in rental sales.

"The younger people seem to be going more with DVDs," Swarpzbaugh said, "but a bunch of people of all ages are hanging onto VHS."

Swarpzbaugh said that Blockbuster has slightly more copies of newly-released movies on DVD than on VHS tapes.

According to a sales associate at the Hollywood Video in South Burlington, (who didn't want to give his name) he said that their store has been ordering the same titles for DVD and VHS, but have been ordering more on DVD due to their popularity.

St. Michael's students rent movies from just about anywhere; however, due to its large chain, Blockbuster seems to be the most popular.

"I rent at Blockbuster," sophomore Kelly Olszewski said. "I only rent there because I'm not familiar with other places."

Smaller independent video stores stock DVDs and VHS tapes in equal amounts. Movie Gallery in Essex Junction is one store that has both formats.

"We have about the same amount of both," Casey Warner of the Movie Gallery said. "Of the two, DVDs are more popular to rent."

Passport Video in Williston also has both DVDs and VHS tapes. Seven of the top 10 rentals are in DVD format. The highest-ranking VHS tape, The "Bourne Identity," is the store's third most popular rental (the DVD of "The Bourne Identity" is the most rented item at Passport Video). The other two VHS tapes in the top 10 are at the eighth and ninth spots ("Minority Report" and "Signs," respectively).

St. Michael's students who do not want to go out to the video stores can go the St. Michael's library. The library has many DVDs and VHS tapes to rent free of charge.

"I rent from the library because it's the most convenient place for me to go," sophomore Ed Burke said.

Burke, like some students at St. Michael's, does not have an external DVD player; however, he can watch DVDs on his computer. DVD players installed on computers is another reason DVDs are doing so well in today's market. At one time it was common for a CD-ROM drive to be pre-installed on computers, but now the standard upgrade is a DVD player.

The DVD vs. VHS sales debate is much like the CD revolution that was sparked when CDs were introduced more than a decade ago. According to a July 2002 article by Matt Labash of weeklystandard.com, it took CDs a little more than 13 years to stand as the true king of audio over cassettes. On the other hand, it has taken only a little more than six years for DVDs to be on top of VHS in total sales.

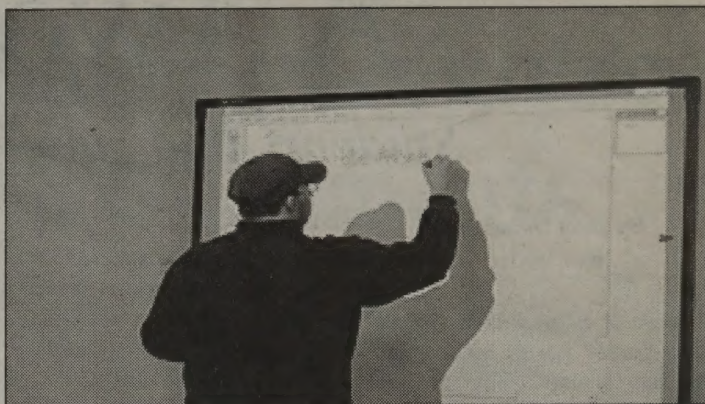


Photo by Sarah MacConnell

Senior David Izzi has a chance to use a Smart Board in his Business Policy & Strategic Management class for Professor Letovsky.

Not an everyday chalk board

Classrooms now beginning to take on an interactive look

By Michael F. Keltner
Science & Technology Editor

People tend to hate it when they're writing on a chalkboard and the next thing they know their fingers are completely white. Or when using a dry-erase board and the marker fumes and squeaking sounds become a little more than just a nuisance. Those stained fingers and irritated ears can take a rest, thanks to the Smart Board.

The Smart Board is an interactive chalkboard that can change a typical classroom or office setting dramatically. The Smart Board, which is compatible to both IBM and Macintosh computers, is most effective when used with a projector. When a computer image is projected onto the Smart Board, a simple press on the touch-sensitive screen can attain and control any application.

With the Smart Board, a person can easily jot down notes, draw diagrams and illustrate ideas. Also with this device comes an interesting feature: electronic ink.

Junior James Pocklington had the opportunity to use a Smart Board this semester in a class discussion on Henrik Ibsen's "Peer Gynt."

"I was able to do a small PowerPoint presentation and show a video without overly complicating things," Pocklington said. "I had planned to use it for notes, as well, but the discussion rapidly became too involved and I just had to let that aspect of the Smart Board go."

Rick Leggett, the senior media support specialist for St. Michael's, said there have been no negative comments about the new Smart Boards. Leggett, who attended a conference on the Smart Boards and other Smart technology was surprised to see that St. Michael's was one of the only colleges to use this new technology.

Smart Board Locations

Jeanmarie 364
Jeanmarie 366
Cheray 123
St. Edmund's 204

"We have four of them on campus, and everyone seems to like them," Leggett said. "I'm just surprised that more haven't upgraded to this form yet."

Kirk Everist, a professor in the theater department, said he liked using the Smart Board for some of its more technical features: being able to resize graphics and another feature that allows handwriting on the board to be instantly processed to text at a click of a button.

"I need to use visual and audio examples to enhance our engagement with texts," Everist said. "These tools have definitely helped my ability to teach effectively, and students have indicated on several occasions that the Smart Board helps integrate these tools more effectively."

The Smart Boards themselves aren't that expensive, ranging between \$1,500 and \$2,000. Expenses begin to increase when factoring in the price for the projector, which can start at \$5,000.

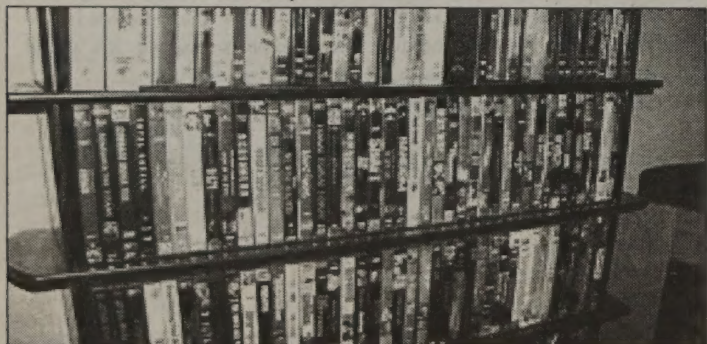


Photo by Jon-Michael McColgan

DVDs are becoming more common in many movie collections.

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Arts & Entertainment

Tharp moves in mysterious ways

By Suzanne Shrekcast
Staff Writer

The temperatures outside the Flynn Theater in downtown Burlington might have dropped well below zero Wednesday, Feb. 12, but inside, the stage was on fire as the Twyla Tharp dance company began an electrifying performance that put the crowd on its feet.

The company, established in 1965 by Twyla Tharp, is on a coast-to-coast tour performing in cities including Kalamazoo, Mich., Las Vegas, Palm Desert, Calif. and Burlington. The tour ends on April 12 in Purchase, N.Y.

Tharp, an award-winning choreographer, graduated from Barnard College in 1963 and has since assembled a troupe of 125 dancers, worked on five Hollywood films and has received two Emmy Awards for her creativity in choreography. She also worked with legendary Russian-American choreographer Mikhail Baryshnikov in 1984. Tharp is writing her second book and has collaborated with musician Billy Joel on a musical called "Movin' Out," which is playing on Broadway.

"She is the hardest working woman I have ever met," said dancer Emily Coates, who joined the company in 2001.

Charlie Neshyba-Hodges, another of the dancers in the company, describes Tharp's dance style as very unique. He said it's unlike the classical training he received at the Walnut Hill

School in Natick, Mass.

"I like to think of what we do as being ballet dancers working under a modern choreographer with also a jazz background, creating contemporary movement," Neshyba-Hodges said.

Unlike many other dance companies, which typically host

a large number of professional dancers, Tharp has only seven dancers on her roster.

"Twyla is very selective with her dancers," said Matthew Dibble, who was part of the Royal Ballet in London and a company in Japan for four years.

For the dancers, many whom are used to working in companies of 80 dancers or more, the Tharp company makes all the difference when it comes to personal attention and inspiration.

"You're seeing her touch on all of the work. She's living, she's with us, she's worked with us in the studio," Coates said. "Her touch includes a lot of encouraging, individual input in the work."

The seven-person company that performed at the Flynn, has been together for only eight weeks. Lynda Sing, who began her training at the Princeton Ballet School in Princeton, N.J., said they didn't have much time to learn each of the 20-minute

routines.

"We only have one week to learn the dances, but it takes two months for the entire routine to gel," Coates said.

Wednesday night's performance featured three dances



The final piece of the night, "Surfer At The River Styx," featured all seven dancers and was loosely based on Euripides' Greek play "The Bacchae." In the play, Dionysus, the mythological god of wine, engages in a philosophical argument with the mortal Pentheus and eventually has him dismembered

Spandex, leapt across the antique mainstage for about 25 minutes until it was completely illuminated for the highly-anticipated grand finale and the modern dance interpretation of Pentheus' death. A tsunami of individual shadows

hung above each dancer, moving in harmony with their bodies, waiting for the garbage cans to rest and the madness to end.

At the conclusion of the dance the audience instantaneously rose from their red theater chairs and enthusiastically applauded as the Tharp company re-appeared and gracefully took their bow.

For Donna Lee, a South Burlington resident who has admired Tharp's work since she lived outside New York City, Wednesday night's performance was a reminder of the show's non-traditional nature.

"I've noticed that with modern dance the men are really very very good, whereas with classical dance often they don't shine like the women do. The men really do shine in this performance," Lee said. "I think Tharp's performances are always kind of quirky and different."

For Neshyba-Hodges the quirkiness is exactly what he loves about Twyla Tharp dance. "It feels like fresh air. We get to find ourselves. It's breathing, living, dancing," he said.

at a drunken social gathering.

As the dancers entered and brought the stage to life, the lights cast shadows on their bodies and faces. Their calculated robotic movements, paired with composer Donald Knaack's junkyard soundtrack of giant garbage cans slamming against each other, created an industrial atmosphere for the audience. The dancers, most of whom were clad in tight black leggings and

V is for victory, valentine and vagina

'The Vagina Monologues' bring a new meaning to Valentine's Day at UVM

By Abby Sweetser
Staff Writer

Valentine's day was celebrated in a very different way by the hundreds of men and women that gathered in the Ira Allen Chapel at the University of Vermont this weekend. "The Vagina Monologues" consists of 17 separate monologues covering themes from abuse and lesbianism to anger, excitement and arousal. Each monologue was delivered by a different actor and connected by one common theme - vaginas.

Eve Ensler, author and original performer of the monologues, interviewed 200 women of different races, religions and ages about their vaginas.

Based on responses and personal experiences she compiled the show. In addition to "The Vagina Monologues," Ensler founded V-Day, a global movement to end violence against women and girls.

"Five years ago the college campaign started and V-Day was created," said Tim Shiner, program director at the UVM Women's Center. "Colleges all across the

country started performing the show during the month of February, and it's been wildly successful all over the world."

This is the third year "The Vagina Monologues" has been performed at UVM. The show was originally performed by Ensler off Broadway eight years ago.

According to Ensler's letter in the programs, in 2002, V-Day was held in 800 venues around the world and raised more than \$14 million in its first five years. Last year UVM alone raised nearly \$13,000 from the show and donated the money to two non-profit organizations in Burlington: the Women's Rape Crisis Center and Women Helping Battered Women.

Auditions for the performance were held in November, and more than 70 women auditioned for 28 roles.

"We were looking for people who are comfortable in front of an audience, have some acting skill," Shiner said. "We were also really looking for people who were committed to the cause of ending violence and the larger mission and feel of what 'The Vagina Monologues' is."

Shiner said V-Day gives the play to college campuses free under the condition that all proceeds go to local nonprofit organizations, and he said he hopes to meet last year's profits. This year the UVM beneficiaries are Safe Space, the

Deaf Violence Assistance Service and UVM Campus Advocacy Program.

At the St. Michael's Women's Center, more than 70 tickets were sold to all three performances. Tori Comer, director of the St. Michael's Women's Center said the number sold was a decent amount.

"We did really well, but it was more about having them available to give students an opportunity to go," Comer said.

The Women's Center also in charge of organizing a raffle, with winners drawn at each performance. Last year Comer said, the raffle raised \$300, and she hopes that this year it will be more. Donations for the raffle came from 1820 Coffee House, Healthy Living, Creative Chocolates of Vermont, Body Mind Connections, New England Culinary Institute, Three Tomatoes and Yankee Tattoo.

Comer also helped organize a dinner before the Saturday show with the UVM Women's Center, the ALANA group and the St. Michael's Multicultural Center, which paid for the dinner. The dinner was open to students interested in discussing the play and the issues surrounding it.

"It's important to be involved, to enhance awareness of violence of women on our campus and to show that we support ending violence," Comer said.

Several St. Michael's students went

to the show for reasons all their own.

"I heard lots of good things about it from last year," sophomore Abbie Corse said.

Comer said she felt empowered after the show.

"It's going to something alive and functioning, not just people going to a play, because they are really taking part in it," she said.

One of the most popular monologues was "My Angry Vagina," performed by Andrea Morales. In the monologue, Morales demands that the world "work with my vagina" and proudly shouts, "My vagina wants everything!" Another popular monologue was "The Women Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy," in which actresses Debi Budnick and Marianne DiMascio extravagantly demonstrate different styles of moans such as the machine gun, the mountaintop, the baby, the birthday party, the wasp and the diva.

"It was really amazing. I've never seen anything like it," said first-year Ida Jenkins. "It made me proud."

Sophomore Erin Tanzer summed it all up in one sentence:

"V-Day is the best cause!" she said.

According to Shiner, the feedback from the monologues was very positive. He said that since each monologue is a different person's story, people can relate to at least one of them.

"Regardless of who you are, there's the potential to be really impacted by it and our feedback has really shown that."

"The Vagina Monologues" will be at the Flynn Theater on Feb. 21 and 22.

Arts & Entertainment

Mountain culture comes alive at Banff Film Festival

By Brian Clifford
Staff Writer

In the Highlands of Mongolia, two kayaks hit the water followed by a raft. Four men gaze at the narrow stream that will carry them across a continent and spit them out into the Arctic Ocean.

Deep in the Canadian Rockies, two men strap on crampons, grab rope and ice tools, and size up a past-vertical ice cave.

Clinging to the side of the 12th floor of a student dormitory in Boulder, Colo., Timmy O'Neill reaches inside a window and steals a Twinkie.

At the University of Vermont, hundreds of outdoor adventure enthusiasts piled into the Billings Center on Saturday Feb. 8 to find out what awaits these adventurers.

This year UVM was a stop for the 27th Annual Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour hosting three sold-out shows that included a collection of short and feature-length outdoor adventure films.

The Banff Mountain Film Festival is a celebration of outdoor sports and mountain culture films shown annually on the first weekend in November in the Canadian town of Banff, Alberta. After the event in Banff, the best films from the festival go on tour around the world.

The Ski Rack-sponsored event at UVM was assisted by the university's Outing Club and serves as the Burlington area's premiere outlet for alternative sports films.

The films on display expose the local community to activities such as climbing, expedition rafting, kite skiing, BASE jumping and big-mountain unicycling.

John Abbott, assistant director of student life for outdoor programs at UVM, said he looks forward to this event every year because it gives people an opportunity to participate in outdoor sports culture.

"The Burlington community is extremely active physically, whether it's the run, bike or ski crowd or the rock climbing, ice climbing and mountaineering crowd," Abbott said. "Burlington is full of activists of all stripes."

These "activists" filled the conference room of the student center Saturday night and exceeded seating capacity, spilled out into the aisles and reacted raucously to the adventurous athletes on screen.

Abbott said the enthusiasm and dedication of the crowds has remained constant over the years, ensuring sold-out shows annually.

"We've been doing it so long, everyone who's been (to the shows) looks forward to February and they get their tickets early," Abbott said



Highlights

One of the longest films was "The Yenisey River Expedition" stretching over 50 minutes. The film followed Ben Kozel, Tim Cope, Colin Angus and director Remy Quinter on their successful quest to be the first to travel the world's fifth largest river from its source in Mongolia to the coast of Siberia.

This expedition began in 2001 when Quinter decided to combine life-long aspirations for adventure, filmmaking and wanting to visit Siberia.

"The opportunity seemed perfect," Quinter said. "I also wanted to make the best adventure documentary I possibly could, something that I found

Throughout the journey the crew encountered fatigue, local military groups and lost and found of all its film and one of its members.

personally entertaining and something that would tour around."

Throughout the journey down river, Quinter and crew encountered a range of difficulties including fatigue, local military groups as well as the loss and discovery of all their film and one of their expedition members.

Quinter said despite these problems, one of the most trying moments of production came after the expedition ended and he was struggling to finish the film and pay the manager of a Vancouver venue where his movie was to debut.

During a final day of editing, Quinter's program crashed the day before the showing and all of his rendered files were lost. Because of this, he didn't get to finish the film on time. But it was after the debut, which he thought might not happen, when the most rewarding moment of production came.

"The booked theater filled up and the audience gave me a standing ovation," Quinter said. "It was fantastic."

A shorter film titled "Musashi," ran roughly 40 minutes shorter than "The Yenisey River Expedition" and received a

similar response from the crowd. The film documented the trial of climbers Will Gadd and Ben Firth as they attempted first ascents up an ice cave in the Canadian Rockies.

Co-producer Glen Crawford said he learned about Gadd and Firth's innovative and unique climbing style on difficult terrain from his colleagues and said he had to film it.

"The idea for the film came from the guys I worked with on this project," Crawford said. "They knew that Will and Ben were doing some rad climbing on this route and thought it would be fun to shoot it."

Unlike the river expedition, Crawford said this film took little time, effort and money to make.

"The project was shot in one day so production costs were minimal, post-production totaled about three weeks and total budget was under \$10,000 Canadian," Crawford said.

St. Michael's journalism professor Jon Hyde attended two showings of the Banff film festival and said he enjoyed the shows. Hyde said he likes the relatively low-resource production process used by the amateur filmmakers because it helps create films with a different focus than most mainstream films.

"These films are more about the people," Hyde said. "They're more about the cultures and the adventures that happen than they are about self-conscious filmmaking."

Audience criticism

Despite repeated applause and enthusiasm, not everyone enjoyed all of the films shown. Many said they would have liked to see more films about certain sports.

St. Michael's first-year student Katie Powers said she enjoyed films like "The Yenisey River Expedition," but said she thought films about parachuting like "SAT Republic" could have been omitted because she didn't find them interesting.

"I would like to see less parachuting and more skiing," Powers said.

Abbott said that one of his favorite films was "Musashi," and that he would like to see more films about mixed and traditional climbing.

"Unfortunately, two other climbing films weren't even shown," Abbott said. "There was another great mixed ice climbing film on climber Rapheal Slawinski and another on bouldering in that little-known climbing mecca of Nova Scotia."

Time limitations on the event created problems with presenting diverse films that entire audiences would be interested in, Hyde said. "It's kind of a crap shoot," he said. "You never really know what you're going to get."

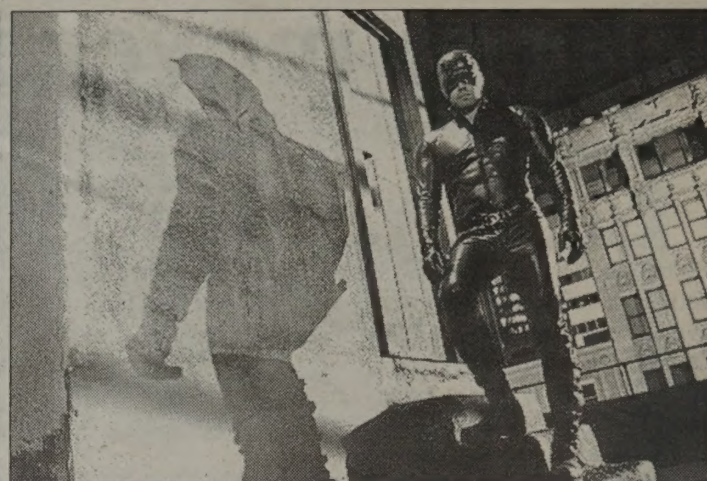


Photo by Zade Rosenthal

Ben Affleck plays an unexpected superhero in the recent hit "Daredevil."

Dance with the devil in unexpected movie hit

By Jon-Michael McColgan
Photo Editor

"Daredevil"

Can one man change the world? Can one man make things right? Well, there is one man who can; his name is Daredevil.

Ben Affleck (Matt Murdock/Daredevil) plays a man stricken blind and gains supernatural sense of hearing and smell. After his father's murder, Murdock vows to bring justice to New York. He becomes a lawyer to protect the innocent, however, he does not hesitate to take the law into his own hands when the law fails.

The genius of Stan Lee (creator of Daredevil and other comic book heroes like Spiderman) created a crime fighter whose only superpower is his fearlessness. This character's exceptional senses came at the cost of his sight.

Daredevil can't shoot lasers from his eyes, can't sprout claws, regenerate limbs or scale walls with his bare hands. All he has is a multifunctional walking stick and no fear.

Mark Steven Johnson serves as writer and director of the film and is a lifelong Daredevil fan. Johnson knew the most important aspect of the movie was to show Daredevil's frailties. After one fight sequence in the beginning, the audience sees Daredevil return home to take a shower with a back covered with scars. Here Daredevil spits out a loose tooth while showering. This is one scene that helps illustrate Daredevil's vulnerability.

Daredevil's human frailty serves to heighten the excitement during battle scenes. The audience knows Daredevil is a man and can die like the rest.

Visually, "Daredevil" serves up incredible effects like showing how Murdock is able to see through sound by shifting through certain sounds until he finds his target.

The only problem I had with the movie was the fight sequences were shot too close to the actors and were under-lit. This is the faulty byproduct of a film that had too small a budget. Daredevil's \$75 million budget was roughly half of Spiderman's

Directed and Written by Mark Steven Johnson
Starring Ben Affleck, Michael Clarke Duncan and Jennifer Garner

Rating 8.5 out of 10

\$139 million.

When I heard Ben Affleck was taking on the role of Daredevil I was disgusted. I thought it was going to be another "Ben-the-superhero" movie. I was wrong. Affleck's performance as Daredevil was excellent. He captured the tortured vigilante who was fighting for what he believes is right.

People say an actor's performance is all in the his eyes. In this case it was true. Murdock/Daredevil is blind, and Affleck sells the audience on this disability. His eyes wander and he rarely looks directly at the people he is speaking to.

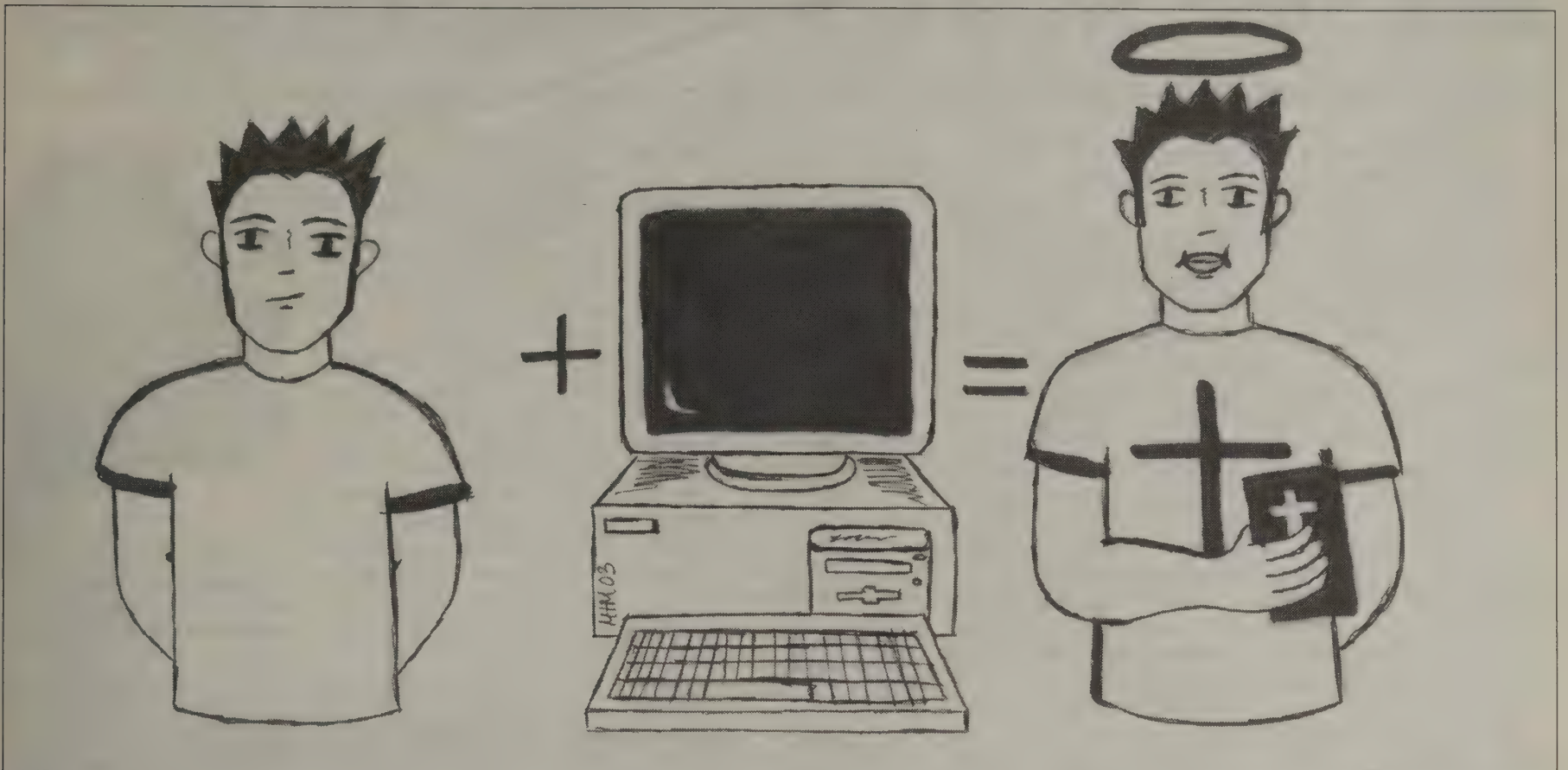
The most important aspect of any actor in a superhero movie is presence. Christopher Reeve and Michael Keaton had it in "Superman" and "Batman," and Affleck has it in "Daredevil." He carries the film, unlike his performance in "The Sum of All Fears."

Another decent showing come from Jennifer Garner as Elektra, Daredevil's love interest; Michael Clarke Duncan, the Kingpin and Colin Farrell, Bullseye. These actors bring their own flare of comedy, invincibility and grace to the characters they play.

Farrell plays a villain who is able to throw objects with incredible accuracy and blends his lines with humor and terror. Duncan, on the other hand, brings invincibility to his character as he kills families off while getting away with a smile.

Making \$47 million in its opening weekend has shot Daredevil to the top of the list of largest openings this year. Because of the success, "Daredevil" is well on its way to becoming the second successful comic book movie for Fox.

Religion & Spirituality



Original Artwork by Michael McCaffrey

You've got God!

Internet allows ordination in minutes

By Edward DiFiglia
Religion Editor

People who wish to preach no longer need to spend years studying in a seminary. Thanks to organizations like the Universal Life Church, anyone with a computer and an Internet connection can become a legally ordained minister in a few minutes.

The Information Superhighway has opened up a number of possibilities for people to learn and do things that they once never thought they could do from the comfort of their own homes. Just as people can order furniture, buy stock, send a letter to the other side of the world or learn how to install a new sink all within a matter of minutes, the Internet can also save you time in becoming a minister.

Will Ulwick, who graduated from St. Michael's last year, became a minister in the fall of 1999 through the Universal Life Church Web site. Ulwick said he became a minister as a joke. He said he has never done anything as a minister, but that there are others who have.

"There are people who actually have brick and mortar buildings that they actually have Mass in. I could start one if I actually wanted to," Ulwick said.

Ulwick said becoming ordained online is legal, and it allows a person to do baptisms, marriages of any kind (including civil unions), hold gatherings and to be a preacher. If an ordained person has a congregation and building that can be used as a church, that person can receive tax breaks from the government.

"I think most people who do it do it as a joke," Ulwick said. "I

think the people that take it seriously are a joke."

The ULC and other churches such as Universal Ministries are non-denominational organizations, which means that anyone from any religion, even non-Christians, can be a part of their churches.

'There are people who actually have brick and mortar buildings that they actually have Mass in. I could start one if I actually wanted to.'

Will Ulwick, Class of '02

According to the ULC Web site, "The Universal Life Church is interfaith and totally non-denominational so no matter what your beliefs are or religion may be, you are welcome at the ULC."

Universal Ministries has a similar viewpoint. The Universal Ministries Web site states, "The Universal Ministries does not support or deny the beliefs of any religion in particular. Although we do have our own personal beliefs, we hold fast to the truth of accepting the rights of all to follow their own personal beliefs, and do not directly endorse or dispute any content you may find on any of the pages located on our Web space."

While the ULC and Universal Ministries will ordain anyone without tests or questions about beliefs or background, other groups require more.

The United Christian Faith Ministries requires applicants to

take an online Bible study course and score at least a 70 on the final test. The UCFM will ordain only Christians.

Some St. Michael's students don't seem to think that online ordination is valid.

"It's not traditional," first-year Ryan Woods said. "I would-

n't go to a church run by someone who just gave a name and an e-mail address and got ordained."

Sophomore Tracey Sullivan had a similar view.

"I think it takes away from the significance of the position," Sullivan said.

Like it or not, the number of

people who have been ordained online is growing. The ULC boast that it has ordained 20 million ministers since 1959. With more people signing up online everyday, that number is sure to keep growing by leaps (of faith) and bounds.

The Defender a minister?



This is to certify that the bearer hereof

Reverend The Defender

has been ordained this Sunday, February Sixteenth, 2003.

Kirby J. Hensley
Bishop KIRBY J. HENSLEY, President

Anyone or anything with a name, e-mail address and mailing address can become a minister – including The Defender.

If you would like to become a minister, try the following Web sites:

Universal Life Church (www.ulc.org)

Universal Ministries (www.universalministries.net)

United Christian Faith Ministries
(www.geocities.com/togministry/clergy.htm)

Religion & Spirituality

Bible Study group to meet despite low interest

Independent student group meets for spiritual reflection and discussion of Bible passages

By Aiko Mizukami
Staff Writer

A few dedicated St. Michael's students held the first Bible Study meeting of this semester on Monday, Feb. 17. However, student interest in the endeavor is low.

The Bible Study group is an independent, student-run organization, established at St. Michael's six years ago through the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship USA, said junior Susan Buescher, who is one of the leaders of the Bible Study group. The InterVarsity Christian Fellowship USA is a national Christian organization for colleges and universities throughout the nation.

The group at St. Michael's usually meets once a week for about an hour to read and discuss the Bible. Four women and one man attended the Bible Study group last year.

"We choose some passages that seem interesting and important, and discuss what they mean and how they apply to our lives," Buescher said.

No meetings have been held this year because of scheduling conflicts and low student interest,

said sophomore Katie Palloti, a leader of the group.

"Students' interest seems low. I don't think a lot of people spend time looking at the Bible, or want to do it personally," Palloti said.

The 2002 survey on religious values at St. Michael's done by the department of sociology and anthropology revealed that 28 percent of students considered "religion very important in their own lives." Results of a national Pew poll in 2002 found that 63 percent of all American adults gave a similar response.

The survey also found that 6 percent of St. Michael's students said they "read the Bible at least every week over the past year or so," and 32 percent said they "never read the Bible."

Professor Raymond Patterson of the religious studies department said he was not surprised that students' interest in Bible study is low because students' experience of religion is different from their parents. He also said Catholics traditionally are not as involved in Bible study as Protestants and others.

However, Patterson said he believes Catholics have been trying to increase the amount of

time they spend reading and learning about the Bible.

Since the Bible Study group is a completely independent group of students, Palloti said she hopes a professional will join to help them understand more about the Bible.

Patterson said it is a good idea if somebody experienced with the Bible joins, so that he or she can keep students from misreading or misunderstanding passages. But he said it does not have to be a professional person, because there are experienced students who can also help them to understand the passages.

Buescher said Bible Study is

not only a place to get better understandings of the Bible, but it is also a social place.

"It's a good place to relax and de-stress," Palloti said. "I can get the sense there are people who want to talk about religious issues."

According to Palloti and Buescher, the Bible Study group is open to all students, including students with other religious backgrounds. Students interested in the group may contact her at sbuescher@smcvt.edu or just come to the meetings held every Monday at Townhouse 406.

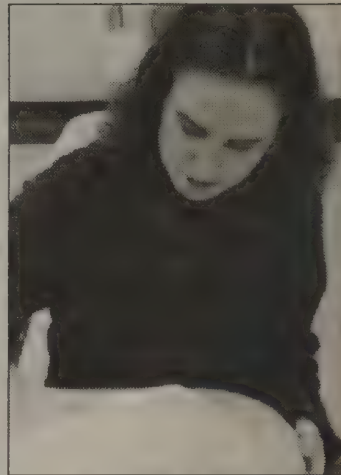


Photo by Jon-Michael McColgan
Sophomore Katie Palloti reads the Bible in preparation to meet with others in her Bible Study.

Spiritual quote of the week

"With good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking His blessing and His help, but knowing that here on Earth God's work must truly be our own."

—John F. Kennedy

Spring 2003 Student Resource Center Workshop Calendar

Wednesday February 19 2-6 p.m.	CAREER EXPO 2003 & SUMMER JOBS FEST: Are you looking for an opportunity to network with local and regional employers? Attend this event for more information on career opportunities and summer jobs in the Northeast. University of Vermont Marsh Dining Hall.
Wednesday March 5 4-5 p.m.	RESUMÉ WORKSHOP: Alliot Vermont Room Chris Clary
Tuesday March 11 4:30-5:30 p.m.	INTERVIEWING SKILLS WORKSHOP: St. Edmund's Farrell Room Donna Atwater & Ingrid Peterson
Thursday March 13 10-2 p.m.	U.S. MARINE CORPS INFORMATION TABLE: Learn about a career in the military Alliot Lobby Ingrid Peterson
Monday March 17 4 p.m.	SIGN-UP DEADLINE FOR PRACTICE INTERVIEWS BY 4:00 PM: Practice Interviews to be held on March 19. You must sign up and drop off your resumé to participate; spaces are limited. Student Resource Center Donna Atwater
Wednesday March 19 4:30-8 p.m.	PRACTICE INTERVIEWS: Meet with local professionals for interviewing practice and feedback. Advance sign-up (by Monday, March 17) is required. DO NOT DELAY - spaces are limited! Student Resource Center Donna Atwater
Thursday March 20 9-3 p.m.	CASTLETON CAREER FAIR: Over 70 employers and graduate schools in attendance. Come to this fair to begin the networking process! For more information, call Castleton at (802) 468-1339. Castleton State College Glenbrook Gymnasium.
Thursday March 20 12-1 p.m.	RESUMÉ WORKSHOP: See listing for January 16. Alliot Vermont Room Donna Atwater
Tuesday March 25 11:15-1 p.m.	SUMMER JOBS INFORMATION TABLE: A review of summer job resources. Alliot Lobby Donna Atwater
Wednesday March 26 4-5 p.m.	JUNIOR/SOPHOMORE ACCOUNTING WORKSHOP: Get a jump-start on your career. Find out about internship opportunities in the accounting field. Alliot Vermont Room Ingrid Peterson
Tuesday April 1 4-5 p.m.	RESUMÉ WORKSHOP: See listing for January 16. Alliot Vermont Room Ingrid Peterson
Monday April 7 4:30-5:30 p.m.	JUNIOR CLASS WORKSHOP: An opportunity to get a head start on career planning. This workshop will focus on the many resources available for developing career objectives. Alliot Vermont Room Career Staff
Wednesday April 9 11-1 p.m.	VERMONT TEDDY BEAR PART-TIME JOBS INFORMATION TABLE: See listing for January 20. Alliot Lobby Donna Atwater
Wednesday April 9 3-7 p.m.	EDUCATION JOBS FAIR: An opportunity for students to meet with school districts and organizations which are actively looking to recruit upcoming graduates and recent alumni, and to identify students for potential summer or internship positions. University of Vermont Billings Student Center
Monday April 14 12-1 p.m.	RESUMÉ WORKSHOP: See listing for January 16. Alliot Vermont Room Chris Clary

Columns

Planes, trains and automobiles

By Sarah MacConnell
Guest Columnist

Is there a connection between how a relationship begins and how it ends?

Some relationships begin in a fiery blaze and end just as passionately, or they simply cool off and fizzle out.

Then again, the beginning and end of a relationship could be circumstantial. Some relationships begin on a night downtown like any other.

Planes

The clock strikes 1:45, 15 minutes until the bars close. The two people at the end of the bar pretending to discuss world peace and the weather – one can only imagine what they are really talking about – suddenly realizing what time it is. They start making out like their plane is going down.

This fast and furious relationship will probably end as quickly as it began. This is called the plane crash. It ends in a spectacular ball of flames only moments later.

Trains

Then there's the couple that aren't really a couple at all. They lead their own lives and occasionally spend time together. They couldn't possibly argue about spending ample time with friends or interfering in each other's lives because there is no commitment. There is no such thing as plans for this couple. World peace and the weather never come up in conversation.

Every beginning must have an end, which is why this relationship resembles a train. The couple just decide they have grown out of it. "Thanks for the time spent together," and then he or she hops off the train. The end of this relationship comes when they depart separately, not when they go down in flames or get stuck with an automobile that won't work.

Automobiles

Finally there's the couple that overcome distance, awkward

family members and flirtatious members of the opposite sex. What causes that type of relationship to end? Is it just one argument too many about future plans or spending time with friends? These relationships are baffling.

How did they not see six months ago when the issue first came up that it wasn't going to be resolved, since they argued about it three months before that? Whoa, there's a red flag if there ever was one.

Then there's the couple that have been dating for a while, and though there is nothing necessarily wrong, there is nothing screaming, "This is right!" Some couples choose the comfort of staying together because there is no immediate reason to end the relationship. A relationship like this one has the potential to drag on forever.

Not unlike the first couple at the end of the bar, this long-term couple's plane is also going down, only ever so slowly. Instead of a plane, this relationship can best be represented by an old automobile. It doesn't crash and burn, it just stops running.

At the other extreme, what about the couples who date throughout high school or college? This break-up occurs when a couple go their separate ways, either to college or a new career, and meet someone new who catches their eye. The result of this break-up is neither a plane, a train nor automobile. It can be devastating and life transforming at the time. There is no need to discuss this dramatic conclusion; it is as predictable as the end of a Disney movie. Apparently the name of the game is to know when to save face and cut losses.

Send your letters to:
defender@smcvt.edu

What happened to Wacko Jacko?

Michael Jackson tore up the music industry during the '80s and the early part of the '90s. He came out with some brilliant songs like "Billie Jean" and "The Way You Make Me Feel" in the earlier days of his career. Jackson then quickly adapted to the times and styles of the '90s with his love song, "You Are Not Alone" and delved into his unusual upbringing with "Have You Seen My Childhood?"

Jackson also astounded fans with his musical body language, popularizing such dance moves as "The Robot" and "The Moonwalk." However, it seems those moves vanished from the music scene once the paparazzi got to him.

Jackson claims he doesn't read those trashy magazines because they mislead readers, but in reality, he loves to be the center of attention. He even came out with a song about the tabloids called "Tabloid Junkie." The refrain claiming, "Just because you read it in a magazine or see it on a TV screen don't make it actual, factual."

So is Michael Jackson still the King of Pop now that he slips to the back of our minds when thinking about popular music.

He tried re-introducing his work with a combination of old and new songs on one album called appropriately, "HIStory."

In 2001, he released another album, "Invincible," that definitely didn't reach the top of the album charts. "Invincible" received little recognition and even some of Jackson's biggest

So, there are Blanket, Prince and Paris. Maybe for his next kid he'll stick to the bedtime theme by naming his child Pillow or move to the bathroom and name the kid Toilet.

fans would have trouble naming one song from it. Jackson no longer enjoys platinum sales. He can't even see his own nose.

These days the so-called King of Pop is no longer the most popular artist. Sure, ABC dug in deep by running a recent special on him, but it was only to find out what he is up to out there in Neverland. The only thing that came out of this special was that he manages to tarnish his own name with his plastic surgeries, his multiple marriages and of course, his kids. If Jackson can't get publicity with his music, he does it himself by dangling his son Blanket over a hotel balcony.

So, there are Blanket, Prince and Paris. In his autobiography, "Michael Jackson," he talks about wanting to have at least 13 kids. Maybe for his next kid he'll stick to the bedtime theme by naming his child Pillow or move to the bathroom and name the kid Toilet.

There's no explanation for this man going from black to white, changing from a nose that fits his face to practically no nose at all. He claims he has only had two surgeries on his nose so he can hit higher notes, but those surgeries certainly didn't elevate his career.

And then of course there's the surgery to add a dimple on his chin. He was going for the

hot and sexy John Travolta look with that one. But Jackson is definitely no "Saturday Night Fever."

No doubt Jackson is still the talk of the world. He will go to any extreme to get his name in the headlines and to get himself on TV. Deep down, nobody but Jacko knows what is going on in his mind.

There have been many ups and downs throughout Michael Jackson's career. Jackson was an amazing performer who will never be forgotten for his jaw-dropping moves and award-winning albums.

Unfortunately, Michael Jackson must admit that anybody who faints at the sight of him now isn't weakened by his fame, but mortified by his looks. Despite his former success, Jackson's career is in the dumps and there is nothing for him to hold onto in the future.

It all seems so harsh coming down on the King of Pop, but he just isn't as smooth as he used to be. He had his lime light, but now he is only blinded by his career downfall.

Michael Jackson should accept his initiation into the category of a once-loved performer, rather than trash his own career only to be remembered in a negative fashion.

Jackson simply just needs to move on and "Remember the Time" that he had. And as for his personal life, he needs to just keep it "In the Closet."



NIKI PELLETIER
COLUMNS EDITOR

Getting deep down with the King of Pop

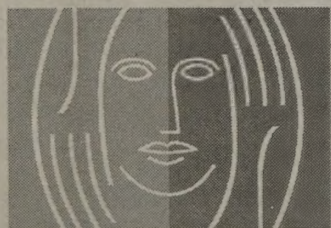
"Even at home, I'm lonely. I sit in my room sometimes and cry. It's so hard to make friends, and there are some things you can't talk to your parents about. I sometimes walk around the neighborhood at night, just hoping to find someone to talk to. But I just end up coming home."

"I am a very sensitive person. A person with very vulnerable feelings. My best friends in the whole world are children and animals. They're the ones who tell the truth and love you openly and without reservation. Adults have learned how to hide their feelings and their emotions. They can lie. They will smile to your face and say bad things behind your back. Children haven't learned those things yet, and they can't hurt you."

"People think they know me, but they don't. Not really. Actually, I am one of the loneliest people on this earth. I cry sometimes, because it hurts. It does. To be honest, I guess you could say that it hurts to be me."

Quotes courtesy of www.geocities.com

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Healthy Women Needed • Ages 16 - 23

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(802) 847-0985

Up to \$1,000 compensation will be provided for your participation.

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In cooperation with the Center for Health & Wellbeing

Calendar

WEDNESDAY February 19

Career Expo 2003 & Summer Job Fest. Looking for an opportunity to network with local and regional employers? Information about career opportunities and summer jobs in the Northeast. UVM Marsh Dining Hall. 2 to 6 p.m.

"Culture, Performance and Communication in Iran." William Beeman, professor of anthropology and director of Middle East studies at Brown University. Beeman is one of the world's leading experts on contemporary Iranian society and Muslim culture. McCarthy Arts Center. Free. 7 p.m.

Patty Larkin with Merri Amsterberg. Higher Ground. Tickets \$23 in advance, \$25 at the door. Early seated show: doors open at 7 p.m. All ages. Non-smoking.

Dave Douglas, world-renowned jazz trumpeter and composer. Douglas is committed to developing music that extends the traditional language of jazz. Flynn Center. Adults \$22, students \$17. 7:30 p.m.

South Burlington High School recital. Solos by Travis Carpenter, Laura Carpenter, Ben van de Graaf and Crystal Bluto. Also performances by high school chamber singers, brass ensemble and jazz improv class. Elley-Long Music Center, St. Michael's North Campus. Food Shelf donation requested. For information call 863-6121. 7 p.m.

THURSDAY February 20

Creative differences tour. The Grouch, Elligh, Murs, Mystik, Journeymen (Sunspot Jonz and Luckylam.PCS), Biscasso, Searub, Asop, Eyedea and Abilities with OMD (2Mex & Clinco), featuring Busdriver. Higher Ground. 8 p.m. \$12 in advance, \$14 at the door. 18+

Tango Buenos Aires. Argentina's celebrated dance is brought to the stage. Tango Buenos Aires is one of Argentina's greatest cultural groups, known throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia for an authentic representation of the tango. Flynn Center. Adults \$46 or \$36, students \$41 or \$31. 7:30 p.m.

Sekou Sundiata, electrifying urban poet. Sundiata performs his acclaimed new solo work, "Blessing the Boats." Featuring poetry, prose and monologue with a sound score. Flynn Center. Adults \$18.50, students \$13.50. 8 p.m.

Sen. James Jeffords presents his new book. Jeffords makes one of his only Burlington-area appearance for signing his new autobiography, "An Independent Man: Adventures of a Public Servant." The Book Rack, Essex Junction. Free. 7 p.m.

Ladie's night with DJ Robbie. Hip-hop, R&B and Top 40. Club Millennium, Burlington. \$5 for under 21 from 10 p.m. to 11 p.m. No cover for 21+ from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

to the annex open at 7 p.m., doors to the auditorium open at 7:30 p.m. Show starts at 8 p.m.

Eve Ensler's "Vagina Monologues." Presented by the Theater Council Productions. Flynn Center. Adults \$39.69 or \$34.37, students \$29.04 or \$34.37. 8 p.m.

DJ Robbie and DJ Toxic Handspin. Hip-Hop, R&B, House and Techno. Club Millennium, Burlington. \$10 for under 21 from 9 to 11 p.m. \$3 for

Ursula Rucker. A new sound emerges from Philadelphia. A balance between new jazz, hip-hop and Philly soul inspired by poetic vision. Club Metronome, Burlington. \$7. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. 21+

Last day of the "Vagina Monologues" Flynn Center. 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets for 4 p.m. are \$34.37 or \$29.04 for adults, \$29.04 or \$23.27 for students. For 8 p.m. show, adult tickets \$39.69 or \$34.37, students \$34.37 or \$29.04.

Argentine Tango Workshops. Experience the passion of Argentine tango, a dance of romance and improvisation. The beginner's workshop focuses on establishing a foundation for the basic elements of the dance. The intermediate class builds on the basic elements of tango, including techniques of leading and following. Singles and couples welcome. Flynn Center. \$15 per class, or \$25 for both. Beginners 10:30 a.m. to noon, intermediate 12:30 to 2 p.m. No dance experience needed.

New England championship sled dog races. Thrill at the speed of the races while enjoying the great outdoors. Meadow Road, Waitsfield. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Musher's dinner after the races. \$8.50 per person.

SUNDAY February 23

Teen night dance party. DJ Robbie rocks the house with hip-hop, R&B and Reggae joints. Club Millennium, Burlington. \$2 discount with the flyer. 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Ages 20 and under.

Second night of New England championship sled dog races. See Feb. 22. No musher's dinner tonight.

MONDAY February 24

"Some Old and New Thoughts on Bodies and Houses, Notes from an Evolving Project" Lisa Roney, assistant English professor, Bucknell University. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill, UVM. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For information call 656-3056.

Northeast region 4-H horse quiz bowl. UVM Extension, St. Johnsbury. Registration 6:30 to 7 p.m. Quiz bowl competition 7 to 9 p.m. For information call (800) 545-8920 or 751-8307, Ext. 22.

TUESDAY February 25

Sound Tribe Sector 9 with DJ Liondub. Higher Ground. \$15. 8 p.m. 18+

"South Pacific" Broadway National Tour. One of the all-time great American musicals about love, prejudice and war. Based on Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by James Michener, "Tales of the South Pacific." Flynn Center. Adults \$46, students \$36. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY February 26

"Einstein's Synchronization and the One-Way Speed of Light." Professor Hans C. Ohanian, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, department of physics. Cook Physical Science Building, UVM. Room A-402. 4 to 5 p.m.

"Cole." A musical tribute to Cole Porter. Devised by Alan Strachan and Benny Green. Music lyrics by Cole Porter. Presented by the UVM theater. UVM Royall Tyler Stage. Tickets \$8 to \$14. For information call 656-2094.



Photo courtesy of Flynn Center

Argentina's Tango Buenos Aires hits the Flynn Center stage Feb. 20 for an authentic representation of the tango. Adults \$46 or \$36, students \$41 or \$31.

FRIDAY February 21

Pure Vibes Dance Party. Featuring The Administrator, Demus, Nickel B and Dread Lion. Presented by 90.1 WRUV and Itation Sounds. Higher Ground. \$5 at the door. 8 p.m. 18+

Last night of Sekou Sundiata. See Feb. 20.

"Beat the Heat." A humorous play about the serious issues of global warming. Presented by the Underground Railroad Theater. Sponsored by the Alliance for Climate Action's Ten Percent Challenge Program. Contois Auditorium, Burlington City Hall. \$10. 6:30 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner by Bourbon Street Grill and show at 8 p.m. Reception, dinner and show all included in the ticket price.

Gov't Mule. Gov't Mule is more than just a rock band, it is also a brotherhood. Presented by Higher Ground. Memorial Auditorium, Burlington. \$26 in advance, \$28 at the door. Doors

21+ from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

SATURDAY February 22

John Valby aka Dr. Dirty. Presented by 106.7 WIZN and Sam Adams. Higher Ground. \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door. 8 p.m. 18+

Poetry circle with Sekou Sundiata. The poet gives participants a chance to share their writings, perspectives on poetry and questions with Sundiata and fellow participants. Flynn Center. Free. 11 a.m.

Women's Rape Crisis Center Calling for Artists

The Women's Rape Crisis Center will host an art show during April (Sexual Violence Awareness Month). The overall theme for the show is the art of survival. It will be displayed at the Arts Alive space at One Main Street in Burlington. The center invites submissions by survivors or in their honor. Submissions will be accepted until March 21 and will be reviewed by a committee. Interested artists may call Cathleen at the WRCC at 864-0555 to obtain submission forms and guidelines.

Submissions

To have your item printed in the weekly calendar, send it to:
The Defender
SMC Box 275 or
defender@smcvt.edu

Sports

Athlete of the Week: Alex Watts, Hockey

**First-year
Undecided**

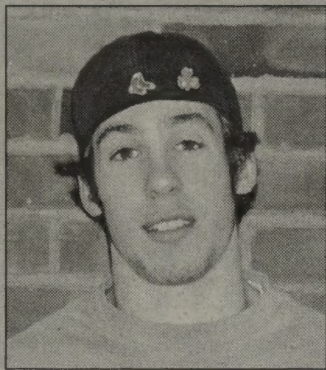
Home: Cheshire, Conn.

High school: Berkshire School

Started playing: At the age of 2.

The performance: Watts scored a hat trick and had one assist in the 7-4 win over St. Anselm on Feb. 14.

Why SMC: Because the



Plans for after graduation: None planned yet.

Hopes for this season: To win the ECAC Division II Championship.

Favorite food: Pizza

Favorite movie: "Braveheart"

Favorite TV show: "The Simpsons"

Burlington area is nice and to play hockey.

In your free time: Hang out with friends and play video games.

Men's tennis tries to refocus after loss of two star players

Juniors Todd Spelman and Steve Pettus decided not to play

By Jean-Luc LaDouceur
Staff Writer

The St. Michael's men's tennis team prepares for another season, but this time it is without its top two players. The team will have to cope without juniors Todd Spelman and Steve Pettus, who quit this year.

Senior co-captain Matt McInnis, who was in Australia last spring on the Study Abroad program, said that the whole team will need to step up in response to the departure of Spelman and Pettus.

"We have a good group of guys," McInnis said. "We will need to take it a step further."

The team began practicing once the spring semester started. The Purple Knights practice five days a week for about 2 1/2 hours each session. Throughout the first month, the Purple Knights focused on conditioning to get ready for the season opener.

Of the seven people on the team, there is only one underclassman. There are three seniors, three juniors, and first-year Tom Wu, who also is on the men's swim team. Wu is excited about his first college tennis season.

"There is only so much we can do in practice with a small group," Wu said. "Yet, I think we can come together as a team."

Last season the team finished the regular season with an 8-7 record and advanced to the NE-10 Quarterfinals, losing to then-No. 1 Assumption College. This season the team is without four players from last year's squad.

"(Losing players) has been tough. We lost two players to

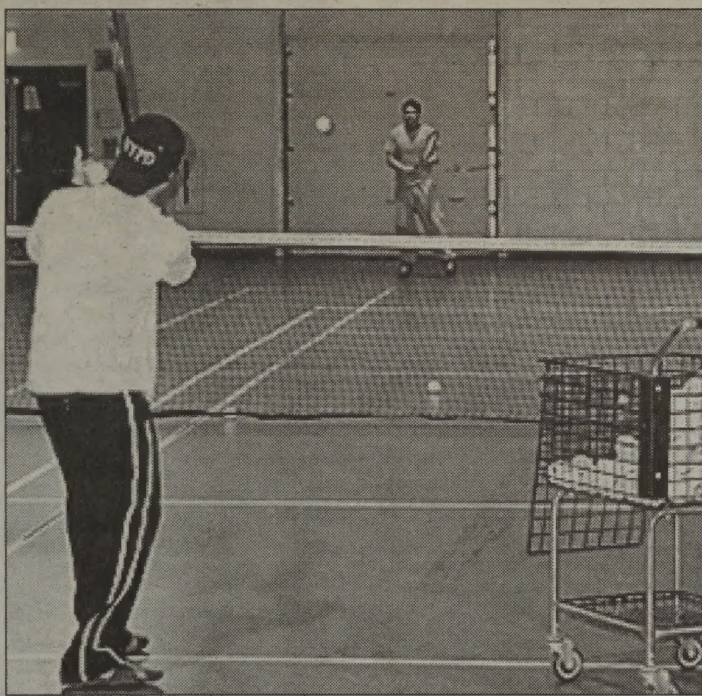


Photo by Jon-Michael McColgan

Senior Cliff Rizzi (far court) and Junior Oscar Larach volley during practice last week.

graduation, and our top two players aren't playing, and our top recruit is out with an injury," senior co-captain Luke Hudak said.

McInnis understands why Spelman and Pettus decided not to play this season.

"We would have to been nice to have them, but they had other important priorities," McInnis said.

Junior John Clark echoed those statements.

"They had other things going that were more important like academics," Clark said.

Aside from making it to the NE-10 tournament this year, the team also wants to have another strong season under second-year head coach Robert Fleming. Last year the team lost a few close matches. Many of those matches could have been victories.

"We have to win those close matches," Hudak said.

The Purple Knights know that two opponents in the NE-10 will be the favorites again this year.

"Our toughest opponents are always Assumption or Pace," McInnis said. "They're almost untouchable."

The Purple Knights play at Assumption on March 22 and at Pace on April 5.

McInnis said he would like to "just try to improve on what we did last year"

"There are a lot of good teams out there," McInnis said. "We just have get in the best shape possible."

The Purple Knights open the season March 9 at Merrimack.



Knight Writer

Taking the plunge

Remembering a cold Atlantic dip

I opened the Vermont section of The Burlington Free Press last Sunday morning and laughed. Right in the middle of the page I saw a big group of people dashing into the freezing water of Lake Champlain. The reason? It was the Penguin Plunge, which takes place every year to raise money for the Special Olympics. With just a bathing suit on, over 600 people jumped into the lake. The water temperature was around the freezing point and to make matters worse the air temperature was a cool zero degrees. I laughed at this behavior because I remembered my experience jumping into frigid waters during wintertime. It was only a couple of months ago during Christmas break.

I was down on the Jersey Shore with my family for Christmas. The year before, my uncle had proposed a daring mission: Plunge into the Atlantic Ocean on New Year's Day. However, no one took up his offer and he took the plunge by himself as we all watched.

A year passed and once again my uncle challenged anyone to join him in his plunge. And again, no one did. But silently, I knew I was going to give it a try. If my 53-year-old uncle could dive into 30-something-degree water with the air temperature hovering just above the freezing mark, then why couldn't I?

My uncle had always been challenging me to these "endurance duels." One year it was a 100-yard dash in a school parking lot (I was 10), another year it was a 5-mile race (I was 14). And now it was time to take "The Plunge."

It was Christmas afternoon, the gifts had been unwrapped and breakfast had been eaten. Everybody thought my uncle was

If my 53-year-old uncle could dive into 30-something-degree water with the air temperature hovering just above the freezing mark, then why couldn't I?

venturing into the water alone. As people got into the cars and headed down to the beach, I went up to my room and changed into my bathing suit and walked down to the beach. I had told my uncle a few minutes before we left that I would join him in.

We sat in the car for several minutes, building up the anticipation as family members waited on the beach. We slowly got out of the car. We wore winter coats, hats and gloves. I could almost hear the theme to "Rocky" in the background as we walked toward the shore.

As we approached the family spectators, we ripped off our jackets, hats and gloves, stripping to our bathing suits. Without stopping for a second, we raced into the water. As I jumped in head first, a feeling of cold rushed through my body, freezing my veins. It was an indescribable feeling of shock. The water soaked through my body. It was time to get out. I turned around and tried get back to shore, but I stumbled and a wave crashed down on me sending me, to the ocean floor. I quickly got up and ran back to the safety of dry land.

The cold feeling grew worse. Family members quickly wrapped me in towels and blankets. My uncle and I ran back across the beach and jumped into a waiting car. My uncle turned to me and asked if would I do it again. I replied:

"Same time next year."



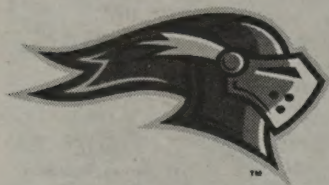
ALEX ABRAMI
SPORTS EDITOR

Sports Quote of the Week

"If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds worth of distance run.
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And which is more you'll be a Man, my son!"

Rudyard Kipling

Sports



Scoreboard

Men's Basketball

(7-16, 4-15 NE-10)

2/12 SMC 82, SCSU 76

2/19 Le Moyne at
7:30 p.m.

2/22 at St. Anselm at
3:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

(15-8, 11-8 NE-10)

2/12 SCSU 74, SMC 73

2/19 Le Moyne at
5:30 p.m.

2/22 at St. Anselm at
1:30 p.m.

Men's Hockey

(9-12-1, 5-11-1 ECAC
East)

2/15 New England Coll. 8,
SMC 2

2/21 Williams at 7 p.m.

2/22 Middlebury at 3 p.m.

Women's Hockey

(2-17, 2-16 ECAC East)

2/16 New England Coll. 4,
SMC 0

2/22 Salve Regina at 5:45
p.m.

2/23 Salve Regina at 3:20
p.m.

Swimming

2/21-2/23 New England
Championships at Bentley
College

Skiing

2/14-2/15 Finished 10th
out of 12 teams at
Williams Carnival

For up-to-date scores, call
the SMC sports hot line
(802) 654-2SMC
or visit
www.smcvt.edu and click
on athletics

Logo courtesy of SMC
sports information
department

New Englands up next for swimmers

SMC swimming coach Jim Donoghue said he has enjoyed the team's success

By Chris White
Staff Writer

The men's and women's swimming season is coming to a close, and with the New England Championships rapidly approaching, the team had a chance to reflect on its season and on the last meet of the year.

The women's squad

The St. Michael's women's team has had a great deal of success this season with a record of 6-3. Head coach Jim Donoghue said he believes this success is a result of hard work and thinks the team has steadily improved throughout the season.

"(First-year) Ellie Hedden has filled our butterfly hole, which has made a big difference," Donoghue said. "And despite injuries, (first-year) Sarah Marich should challenge the 50-yard freestyle record if sophomore Katie Mazurek doesn't get it first."

Junior Jill Yendriga says every member of the women's squad has helped them excel as a team.

"It has been a team effort all around. We have so many different people contributing," Yendriga said. "(Sophomore) Maura Cunningham has been great with distance, and then we have excellent sprinters who continue to get faster times."

The men's squad

The men's team has had a relatively difficult season with a record of 2-7, but the Purple Knights are hoping to build after a Jan. 25 dual-meet win over SUNY-Potsdam. Their record can often be deceiving, Donoghue said.

"The swim season is a strange thing," he said. "You try to concentrate on the dual meets, but our main focus is on the championships. During the season we work on racing and training."

Donoghue says training can impede swimmers' times during



Photos by Sarah MacConnell

First-year Amy Powers (left) and sophomore Gretchen Klene kick during a Feb. 14 practice.

the dual meets because they are trying to get stronger for the championships. However, as the season winds down Donoghue tries to decrease the yardage to keep his swimmers strong for the New England championships.

"If a coach does things right, times should drop, and everything will turn out great," he said.

One of the team's difficulties stemmed from the size of the team, which consists of only five swimmers and divers. Senior Jeff Hechenbleikner said he wished the team were a little larger. "We lost some people since last year," Hechenbleikner said. "One of our divers went abroad and we had a pretty small squad."

Donoghue did not think size was as big an issue as it could have been.

"We were a small team, but we did not focus on it," he said. "Instead of looking at a bad situation and making it worse, the team decided to look at what they could do to make the season a success."

Donoghue attributed this attitude to senior leadership.

"A big part of our attitude had to do with Jeff (Hechenbleikner)," Donoghue said. "He is about as fine a student leader as I have ever had the pleasure to work with."

Hechenbleikner said the



Members of the SMC men's and women's swim teams take a break during a practice on Feb. 14.

younger core of swimmers have done a good job.

"(Sophomore) transfer student Logan St. Peter really stepped in and helped out a lot," Hechenbleikner said. "Freshmen Chris Cochran and Tom Wu were also a very big help and added to the team."

Donoghue agreed with Hechenbleikner's comments.

"We lost two excellent sprinters, and the hole is nowhere near the size it should be thanks to Tom Wu," Donoghue said. "We have also gotten help from Logan, who is a very good breaststroker and has been great in the individual medley and relays."

Cochran has enjoyed his first year on the team.

"We had a good team. It was small, but everyone on the team is good," Cochran said. "We are all friends, and I think that really helps us do well."

Milestones

This season two St. Michael's records were broken. On the women's side, sophomore Eliza Delaney broke the record for the 400-meter individual medley, which Donoghue

believes is one of the toughest races. Siobhan Carney set the old record in 1998 with a time of 5:04.87. Delaney ran a 5:02.59 at Plattsburgh on Jan. 22.

Junior Adam Forrest broke one of the school's oldest records for the three-meter dive. Eric Loveless set the previous record in 1976.

A look ahead

The New England championships are just around the corner, and Donoghue said he thinks his teams can perform fairly well.

"The small numbers hurt, but not as much as in dual meets," Donoghue said. "You watch, the men's team should really surprise people."

Hechenbleikner said the relays should do well.

"Low numbers will make it difficult, but our relays should really be competitive."

Cochran is looking forward to his first championship meet.

"I am just going to go out there and have fun," Cochran said. "My main hope is to break my personal best and then go from there."

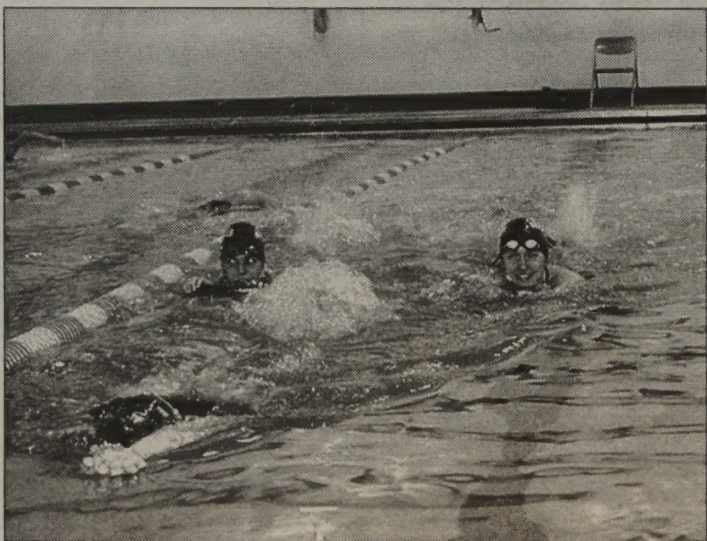
The men's team might be an underdog, but the women are certainly not. In the past three years they have routinely finished in the top four or five.

"We have brought good teams to this meet, and this year is no different," Donoghue said. "Our women's team has had great success, and now opposing teams are starting to expect it."

Yendriga said he knows the competition will be tough at the New England championships.

"We are facing teams we have seen before, but we are also seeing some other real big teams we haven't faced," Yendriga said. "We just hope to work hard and get some good times."

The New England Championships will be held on Feb. 21-23 at Bentley College in Waltham, Mass.



Sophomore Erin Conlon (left) and first-year Katie Gundling try to catch up to an unidentified swimmer during practice on Feb. 14.